The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VIII. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 24, 1870. NO.

SECOND EDITION.

4 O'CLOCK, A. M.

THE WAR.

RECENT SORTIE FROM PARIS.

The French Surprised at Langris—Prussian Column Marching in the Direction of Laon—Mutiny at Belleville—A Grand Dash to be Made from Paris—Communications of Frederick Charles Severed, &c. &c.

FRANCE.

Epitome of Late Engagements.

General Von der Goltz surprised the French at Langris, and drove them from their position. Many prisoners, arms and baggage were taken by the Germans. The fire from the Paris fortifications was ineffective but ineffective on Tuesday. During the cannonade a sortie was made against the Prussian Guard and Saxons, the fighting continuing for several hours. Prussian loss small. The Hanoverians defeated a body of Garden Mobile at Rhetz, eight miles northeast of Tours. A Prussian column is marching in the direction of Laon, La Fere and Clamy, it is supposed to attack the Army of the North. Versailles dispatches report a sortie from Paris on Thursday, which at first drove the Prussians back, but the French were finally repulsed and driven into the city. Several battalions of troops at Belleville, a fortified suburb of Paris, became an anarchist. The authorities were compelled to disband them. The Government has ordered the arrest of Gustave Flourens, on a charge of fomenting insubordination among the troops. Bordeaux dispatches state that the army of the northern army of the Loire and grand dash is to be made from Paris when the armies of the Loire and of the North are in position to co-operate.

The Late Sortie from Paris.

BOURGET, December 21.—A dispatch from Tours, bearing date the evening of the 21st, and signed by the Mayor, informs the Department of the Interior that numerous Prussians have entered the Department of the Indre Et Loire.

M. Gambetta was received at Lyons with the warmest ovations and an universal feeling exists that the fullest measure of justice be accorded to the wretches who have disgraced the name of the city. Several persons have been arrested for complicity in the assassination of M. Pane.

Advices from Paris on the night of the 21st brings an official report of the recent military operations. The report says: Operations were resumed to-day, and only ceased at midnight. On the right, Generals Maire and Blaise occupied Neuilly and Marne, Villa Evelyne and Maison Blanche, all to the east of Paris. The fire of the enemy was silenced at all points. It is also stated that after a short combat, in which General Blaise was wounded, the forces of St. Denis, under Admiral Rieunier, carried Bourget, north of Paris, but were unable to hold it. Finding the enemy concentrated here, since the capture of Orleans, constantly feeling the French lines, the Prussians have had no opportunity to make an effort to break them, but their movements have been watched with a vigilance equal to their own.

Troops from Strasburg.

CHARLTON, December 22.—A force of one thousand men, fully equipped, left to-day for the field. Arms and ammunition are being sent in large quantities. The blockade of Hardaue has been ordered.

ENGLAND.

Communications of Frederick Charles Severed.

LONDON, December 22.—The French claim to have severed Frederick Charles's communications, and that Bourbaki's 200,000 troops are in the Germans' rear leaving Tours. They also report that the army of the Loire has made a successful advance, and is now 200,000 strong and ready for the offensive.

AUSTRIA.

The Luxemburg Question.

VIENNA, December 22.—The *Herald* special correspondent says: There is nothing to prove that Prussia wishes to decide the Luxemburg question by arbitration.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

A Pure Invention.

Special to the World:]

VIENNA, December 22.—The rumor propounded in the Austrian newspapers that the Roumanian Burst intends declaring the Danubian Duchies independent from the Sublime Porte is a pure invention.

THE NICK WALL DISASTER.

List of the Persons Saved.

MONTREAL, December 22.—Following is a list of the persons saved from the Nick Wall, as far as can be ascertained:

Arkansas—Sumner W. Scott, Des Arc.

Alabama—J. E. Bowers, G. H. Bowers, Mrs. N. S. Bowers, J. J. Bowers, R. D. Bowers, Cherokee county; E. M. Rohner, M. J. Rohner, T. S. Rohner, W. A. Bowers, L. Bowers; J. S. Sprayberry, A. Harris, Emma Harris, Newton Harris, Cherokee county; Peter Whitehead, Mary Whitehead, Amanda Whitehead, Lauretta Whitehead, Mary Whitehead, William Whitehead, Ruth Whitehead, Virginia Whitehead, H. Whitehead, Mr. Master, Madison county.

Georgia—Thomas J. Robinson, W. L. Sprayberry, Wm. G. and W. B. Sprayberry, Robert Brooks, Miss Eliza Woltrop, Thomas Row, George Hathaway, Jonesboro; W. J. Stroutman, J. L. Bonfield, constable; H. H. Prather, Fayette county; Wm. H. Rohner, Henry county; George T. Steedman and family; Wm. Sykes and family; Mr. Wolfe and family.

Illinois—M. Pearson, C. Kramer, W. Harrison, John B. Beck, N. Haxton, C. Christopher, C. Bergman, Anna Bergman, W. Bergman, Chicago; John L. Butler, Fayette county; M. Joss, Knit Joss, Chicago.

Pennsylvania—John T. Chambers, Allegheny City; George T. Anabutz, Pittsburgh, engineer.

Texas—Francis Johnson, Mrs. Johnson, Minneola—Dennis Black, wife and child, Millwaukee.

Missouri—J. P. Price, Robert Schieble, J. W. Bates, William Boyd, R. G. Baldwin, Hugh Thompson, Mr. Belcher, James Dunn, Mr. Hamilton, William V. Evans, Kansas City; E. W. Pearce, St. Charles.

Of the crew the following are saved: John Lynn, engineer; Joseph W. Rue, clerk, Georgetown; Joseph T. Mellody, steward, Georgetown; P. H. LaVelle, cabin boy, Iowa; R. P. Lost, cook; Charles Wood, Martin Heslow, W. M. Beattie, James Baker, steward; Mrs. S. C. Bottsman, cook; H. S. Lyons, steward; Alton, Ill.; Richard Dill, porter, Carondelet; C. W. Seal, pilot, St. Louis; E. B. Watson, carpenter, St. Louis.

RAILWAYS.

LOS ANGELOS, SAN BERNARDINO AND CENTRAL ARIZONA RAILROAD.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 22.—The certificate of incorporation of the Los Angelos, San Bernardino and Central Arizona narrow gauge railroad has been filed at Sacramento. The intention of the corporators, at the head of which is General Phitzwe Banning, is to construct the road as early as possible.

RIGHT OF WAY SECURED.

ST. LOUIS, December 22.—The City Council of Leavenworth has rescinded the ordinance granting the right of way through the city to the Leavenworth, Atchison and Northwestern Railroad for non-compliance with contract. This will probably suspend the running of through trains from St. Louis to Atchison.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Three steamers have arrived at Havana from Spain, bringing two thousand and five hundred troops.

Messrs. Allan, of Montreal, contemplate establishing a steamship line between Philadelphia and Liverpool.

Senator elect Vance, of North Carolina, has written a letter accepting his re-appointment in the Legislature, and declares the unity and prosperity of the whole country.

Gen. Logan is in Chicago, looking after the United States Senatorship. He thinks he has a sure thing on the caucus nomination, but is afraid enough Republicans will remain out of the caucus to effect his defeat. Gen. Kenyon, it is supposed, proposes to unite the opposition to Logan on him-self in the Democratic caucus, if he can get the vote. They want the Republicans nominee to go with them and elect a Democrat. Joseph Medill, or some active citizen of like ability.

The Chicago money markets ease up a bit, and some of the strongest houses have no end an extension of time on their paper.

The *New Orleans Picayune* of yesterday says the arrest of Blanchard's correspondent has produced great excitement, and that among the Republicans, and good authorities are expressed in certain quarters against Senators Harris and Kellogg. It is authoritatively stated that conditions will be introduced at the next meeting of the Legislature demanding their resignation.

The cotton business portion of Brandenburg, Washington county, Kentucky, was destroyed by fire early Tuesday morning, and only three business houses left standing in the place. The origin of the fire is unknown, but is supposed to have originated in a hotel accidentally. The loss is estimated at $100,000, there is an insurance of $75,000.

A black continuing sixty-two thousand five hundred pounds of gunpowder will be fired at Blue Gravel Gold Mines, Jackass Hill, California, next week.

The Ware mill of the Renfrew Manufacturing Company at South Adams, Massachusetts, was damaged $50,000 by fire last night, fully insured. Spontaneous combustion was the cause of the fire.

Fifteen hundred pounds of nitro-glycerine was exploded at the Phoenix Powder Mill yesterday. John Volmer, Superintendent, was blown to atoms.

Brown, Walter & Co., late heavy druggists of St. Louis, were adjudged bankrupts yesterday, and Leonard Matthews has been appointed to take possession of the assets.

The great mill of Mr. Meister, and three adjoining residences, in Bellview, Ill., were burned last night, loss about $100,000.

The Rev. Collins Stone, Principal of the American Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, at Hartford, Conn., was killed by the cars at the New Haven Railroad depot on Tuesday afternoon, and Rev. Joe W. Stone, pastor of the Congregational Church at Mystic, Conn., was badly injured. Mr. Stone is in a critical condition. The two were riding in a carriage, and attempted to cross the tracks in front of the New Haven express train, and were struck by the engine. Mr. Stone was for many years Principal of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, at Columbus.

A Harrisburg telegram says: The case of Mr. Common, wealth *vs.* the Credit Mobilier of America, was closed at a late hour Tuesday evening. Yesterday morning Judge Pearson delivered his charge to the jury, and in the afternoon a verdict was rendered that the Credit Mobilier pay into the Treasury of the Commonwealth $426,000, the full amount claimed.

Jacob Hackey got drunk in Cincinnati Tuesday night, and murdered his family.

Clarendon Nutt fell through a hatchway in his store-house in Newport, Ky., yesterday, and was killed.

WASHINGTON.

ENFORCING THE PENALTY.

The Missouri Bolting Members Cut Off from the Departments—"Let Us Have Peace"—Census Returns of Maryland and Virginia—Explanation of Terms in the Internal Revenue Laws—Important Decision in Maryland—Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Preferred Stock Must be Paid in Coin—Commissionership of the Land Office to be Given to Willis Drummond, of Iowa—Lectures Against Woman Suffrage.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 23, 1870.

Enforcing the Penalty.

Several of the Missouri delegation in the House are having a hard time in the Departments. Colonel Asper called on Mr. Creswell day before yesterday to ask for some appointments in his district, and was informed that he was not regarded as having any more claims upon the Administration than a Democrat or other enemies of the party. Mr. Boyd is wholly cut off in the same Department. Senator Drake having procured an order and filed it with the Appointment Clerk, directing the latter to pay no attention to Mr. Boyd, but to consult Havens, the member elect from his district. Mr. Finkelnburg is also ignored in all matters of patronage.

Census Returns.

Complete census returns from the State of Maryland show a total population of 780,894, an increase of 94,009 since 1860. Seven counties, principally eastern, show a decrease since 1860. The gain is principally in Baltimore and a few inferior towns. Returns from the principal cities and towns in Virginia are as follows: Richmond, 51,093; Norfolk, 19,845; Petersburg, 18,950; Lynchburg, 9,720; Portsmouth, 10,592; Alexandria, 12,524; Fredericksburg, 4,046; Winchester, 4,470; Williamsburg, 1,450.

An Embezzling Revenue Officer.

A warrant has been issued by Supervisor Dwyer for the arrest of Andrew Lewis, late Collector of Internal Revenue in the First Indiana district, on a charge of embezzling funds while serving in that position.

Internal Revenue Explanations.

In a letter written yesterday the Commissioner of Internal Revenue defines the term "worked," as used in the law, to include any process which under the law makes the party rectifier, and that therefore all rectified spirits when put up either originally or by change of package, may be marked rectified. Where, however, a party does not rectify, but only blends or reconstitutes, he may do so by purchase the package as purified, refined or compounded, and may mark the same "purified," &c. Persons selling spirits from any extraneous admixture, as to be rectifiers, are liable to penalty as such, and compelled to be improving of spirits in delivery, or in anything that constitutes excellence, such as rendering it more pure, or by the addition of material which gives character to the spirits. The word "compounding" is stated to be the compounding of liquor by mixing or uniting two or more ingredients, by the introduction of one into the other, in any proportion as to compose a liquor different in kind from that with which the mixture is effected.

Must Pay in Gold.

In the case of the State of Maryland against the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to recover payment in gold of $1,000,000 preferred stock in the road and $1,000,000 bonds, brought in the Baltimore Court, a decision has been delivered in favor of the road. The principle points raised for the defense were that the Company was not obliged to pay in gold what it had received in currency, and that the State was stopped from claiming payment in gold in any way because of accepting payments in several instances in current money. The case will be appealed.

Commissionership of the Land Office.

The President has decided to appoint Willis Drummond, of Iowa, commissioner of the Land Office, vice Wilson, asked to resign. It is not regarded as certain that the latter will go out—some say he will choose to be removed. If the latter occurs, the rest of the story why the President became suspicious of Wilson will come out. It will come out, also, if he is one of the best selections which could be made for the place.

Lectures Against Woman Suffrage.

Mrs. W. G. Wheaton, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, has been lecturing here during the past week against giving the ballot to women. She is the same lady who was invited to present her views before the last Constitutional Convention in Illinois. Her lectures here have attracted very general attention.

WASHINGTON, December 23, 1870.

GENERAL *vs.* MORRIS ET AL.

The President-body signed General Schenck's commission as Minister to England.

Internal Revenue Receipts to Noon.

F. E. Boyd, from Boyd Ross & Hobson, New York, representing numerous western distilleries, had an interview with the Secretary and Mr. Pleasants, the Acting Commissioner of Internal Revenue and Counsel, the object being to obtain the passage of a law allowing the transportation of spirits in bond from the place of manufacture to the bonded stores would be no unnecessary obstacles placed in the way of the application for permits. It is thought the Department would not sanction any bill unless properly guarded to prevent fraud. The subject, it is said, will be brought before the Committee on Ways and Means.

WOMEN'S PEACE CONGRESS.

The Women's Peace Congress was largely attended. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe presided and read letters from eminent reformers in this country, England and France, sympathizing with the movement. Resolutions were adopted deploring officers of the Society as a Committee to appoint delegates to attend the next meeting of the Society, and some who are in favor of the movement, with a view of arranging for a European Peace Congress.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Turkish Operations Against the Arabs.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 22.—The Turkish expeditionary force started for Yemen to operate against the Arabs. The troops forwarded number about 5,000, and reinforcements are to follow.

Assembling of the House to Italy.

FLORENCE, December 21.—The bill ratifying the vote of the Roman people for annexation to Italy has been passed by the Italian Chamber of Deputies by a vote of 25 to 99.

American Ready to Fight—England Not Prepared.

LONDON, December 22.—The *Times* to-day again editorially discusses the question of the Alabama claims. It says: The Americans are ready to fight, although they admit that war is a horrible evil. Their exposed points are few and their resources are great. The English people, on the other hand, are likely to decline a challenge, whereas England is averse to war for converse reasons.

Attack on Marchionda.

At Marchionda a number of police were placed on the heights with the expectation of arresting the escaping Red, but the only result was the kindling of a fire, which led to the explosion of one hundred shells piled against a house filled with wounded men, women and children.

Entry of the New King of Spain—A Protest from Don Carlos.

MADRID, December 22.—Queen Dowager Christina has been elected for the entry to Madrid of the Duke of Aosta. In the meantime he will remain at the royal palace at Aranjuez.

Don Carlos has issued a protest against the elevation of an Italian to the throne, and in support of his claim to the crown. He has had audiences with the Carlist leaders from Catholic Albert and Virtue Emanuel. The latter are still engaged in the discussion of the motion for dissolution.

Answers Overstocked with Goods.

ANTWERP, December 22.—The Exhibition has grown stocked with importations that the authorities have given notice of their intention to give prompt shelter to exhibitors, and that all goods left on the docks will be unexamined, suffering from exposure to the elements.

The Eclipse.

LONDON, December 22.—Most satisfactory observations were taken of the eclipse in England.

Greek Chambers.

ATHENS, December 21.—The session of the Chamber of Representatives was opened to-day. The speech from the throne was omitted.

LAGRANGE, IND.

Rebutting Testimony as to Jenks's Insanity.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LAGRANGE, Ind., December 23, 1870.

In the Jenks trial to-day, the court was occupied in hearing rebutting testimony offered by the prosecution. It was mainly the opinions of the neighbors as to his mental condition. Some testified to doing business with him, and long acquaintance with him, but always considered him sane. Some said he was eccentric, but not insane. Some said he was always noticed. The defense claim that their side is not weakened any by the rebutting evidence, and still consider their case a strong one. Some of the neighbors did not believe him to be sane. The trial will last until the middle of next week.

GEORGIA.

The Vote on Congressmen—Result in the State Not Yet Ascertained.

SAVANNAH, Ga., December 23.—The Democrats elect Paine and Wingfield to the First and Second Congressional Districts, Wm. F. Wright from the Third District, C. A. Corker and D. M. Dubose in the Fourth and Fifth Districts by over 4,000 majority, and F. W. B. Young by 5,000 majority in the Seventh District. In thirty-six counties thus far heard from the Democrats gain ten members and one Republican loses ten, and the remaining five are so closely contested that only the official vote can decide. In Bibb county, Jefferson F. Long, colored, is elected to the Legislature, defeating their candidate.

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SAN DOMINGO.

Reorganization of the Foreign Relations Committee.

Sumner, Schurz and Patterson to be Thrown Out—Morton to be Chairman—The President Orders a Ship Fitted Out to Carry the Commission to San Domingo.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 23, 1870.

The movement to effect a reorganization of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations is being vigorously pushed. It seems as if the intimations of Morton and Conkling made in debate that the time had come when Sumner should be forced to give up his place on the committee gave the first expression of what was insisted upon at the White House. The plan now has been extended to include Schurz, and if strength enough can be secured in caucus, Patterson also. After Sumner, the committee consists of the following Senators, ranking in the order named: Cameron, Harlan, Morton, Patterson, Schurz and Conkling.

The object is to make Morton chairman, and for this Cameron is expected to yield his right to promotion and remain second. Conkling is the choice of those working for a change for Patterson's place. It is not believed by any that this scheme can receive a majority of the Republicans in the open Senate, but the plan is to get the Republicans in caucus, where it is believed that the President can secure a majority, and then to insist that all in the party shall be bound by the caucus action on the floor of the Senate.

The President feels so certain that the House will adopt the Morton resolution that orders have been given to fit out the Tennessee to take the Commission to St. Domingo. Captain Temple Judge Advocate of the Navy Department is to have command.

The fact has come out that a very full report was made upon San Domingo over a year ago by a well known officer in the navy, under instruction from the President. This officer was charged with the duty of visiting the island and making a thorough examination with special regard to the question of annexation. The report made by Virginia to the United States Senate to acquire San Domingo. In the time a full report was made, taking strong ground against the policy of annexation. When the Senate was considering the treaty, which was subsequently negotiated, it was called for by an order of Executive session. The report of the above document had been transmitted from the Navy Department to the White House, and on that place it had been mislaid. As yet it has not been found.

NEW YORK, December 23.—The following is a special to the *Evening Post*:]

WASHINGTON, December 23.—The fact has come to light that early in November the United States steamer Nipsic, then at Port au Prince, was directed by the Secretary of the Navy, at the request of the President, to make a thorough investigation as to the condition of San Domingo politically, financially and otherwise, and to report to the Department for the purchase of that country. This order Commander Selfridge, carried out his instructions and left the island for Washington. Upon his arrival he reported to the Department that the object of his visit was accomplished by expressing the desire of the people of San Domingo to be annexed to the United States. This report was never permitted to see the light by the officials to whom it was addressed, and the order to Selfridge was not complied with. Instead of making it more pure, or by the addition of material which gives character to spirits, the word "rectified" is stated to be the compounding of liquor by mixing or uniting two or more ingredients, by the introduction of one into the other, in any proportion as to compose a liquor different in kind from that with which the mixture is effected.

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LETTER FROM KITTANNING, PA.

Proceedings of the Armstrong County Teachers' Institute.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

KITTANNING, PA., December 22, 1870.

The afternoon session of the Institute to-day was opened with music on the violin by Mr. Colegrass, with piano accompaniment by Miss Hall.

Then followed Mr. Thornhurst on "Methods of teaching the Constitution of the United States;" but his remarks were more in relation to its character than how to teach it.

Mr. Shoemaker followed with a lecture on geography. The speaker pointed out some of the defects in the methods of teaching this branch. To obtain a rational knowledge of geography we must proceed from the known to the unknown. Some one should call exercises in order to secure success. In local geography begin with the immediate vicinity of the school room, then township and county. Map these.

Mr. Eberhart then resumed the subject of Reading. He pointed out the prominent errors in teaching reading—awkward position, unnatural tones of voice, touching pauses by counting, and other abominations. The subject was further discussed by Professor Harrison and Shoemaker, and Eberhart.

Professor Barti lectured upon the importance of drawing and the methods of teaching the Constitution, which latter subject was discussed by Messrs. Eberhart, Harrison, Shoemaker, Murphy and Superintendent Gibson. It should be committed to memory by analysis.

The question, how many hours per day should pupils be required to study in school? was discussed by Messrs. Stevenson, Brown, Stewart, White, McMillen, Dickey, Ehrenfeld, Eberhart and County Superintendent Murphy.

No very definite results were arrived at. Some of the speakers held that four hours per day are enough for primary pupils, but in rural districts it is not practicable to adopt the same regulations that are applicable in towns and cities. Pupils in rural districts must have more time, as they have to be moved at different hours.

The evening session was opened by Mr. Jas. S. Harrison, of Pittsburgh, in a very able and eloquent address on the "History and Influence of Literature." The audience was large and the lecture was listened to and interrupted by a very large and intelligent audience.

Miss Jessie Gibson, of the Kittanning High School, recited a very fine essay on the "Cultivation of the Beautiful." Beauty is everywhere, but not in vain. While it may be that all things are not in fact good, it is certain all that is good is beautiful. The essay was a very fine one, and the young lady who read it was listened to was ample evidence of its interest and worth.

Miss Mattie E. Stocks read a very creditable essay on the "Wants of our Public Schools." Four things are needed, good teachers, good boards, good parents and good parents. Students should study economics to learn a worthless or worthless use of time is worse than wasting it. That they must profit by the example of good men; grammar, that they may be able to speak and write correctly; and good habits. Teachers are not quite earnest enough. Let every one do his duty, and all reforms for which teachers hope will soon be realized.

The discussion of the abolition of corporal punishment was then taken up, and participated in by Messrs. of Beatty's Bend, leading. The speaker said this subject, like that of capital punishment, comes to the front from time to time. Some say it is right, and others say it is wrong. Some say it is necessary, and others say without corporal punishment, if possible, and hope of the day when there shall be no necessity for it. He held that it cannot be totally abolished.

Superintendent Gibson, of Indiana county, said the school was not established for the benefit of the teacher, but that object is to inculcate in the minds subjugated, the principles of truth, honesty, virtue, temperance, love, fear and moral wisdom. Corporal punishment should not be inflicted—something more efficient should be resorted to. Teachers have no ways to get rid of it—sacrifice of another, pupils or parents. He had not abolished corporal punishment.

Mr. Harrison said it should not be abolished because there is no substitute for it. Those who favor its abolishment have not suggested a substitute or a requirement as an equivalent for it. Governments have a right to punish offenders—teachers must have the same right. Parents have the right to punish, and they cannot be sacrificed. Authority must be maintained. Mr. Eberhart held that corporal punishment is necessary to the fundamental law of man's social happiness, and that this great principle must be inculcated in the human mind. Moral suasion is ineffective, as one which, if obeyed, will insure their well-being.

Professor Furtt favored the abolition of the rod. He thought the law could be modified. Mr. Sharrard wished to know how moral persuasion can be made to take the place of corporal punishment. Let teachers and others talk upon the subject.

Rev. Mr. Eberhart claimed that as God punishes by corporal punishment, the teacher must have the right to punish.

Mr. Sharrard thought at one time that he could not get along without the rod; but now he can. His method of punishment is confinement to the school room.

The exercises of the evening were enlivened by several fine performances on the violin by Messrs. Mr. Coleman and Masters Charlie and Sammie Jessop.

The morning session was opened by Mr. H. W. McKee, who conducted the singing exercises. One hour was spent in singing, which was very pleasant, but the result will not be reported until to-morrow morning.

Mr. Eberhart then took up the subject of elocution, giving a full analysis of the subject, and illustrating the same by reading and recitations.

Rev. J. R. Speece read a lecture upon rhetoric, and although it possessed many excellent points, and was written in fair style, it was not delivered in a style suited to didactic subjects. There was too great an effort at oratorical display where none was required. Orations only occupy one-half of the space of his text about ten inches above the other, in particular the figures are correct, added but little to his appearance on the platform.

Mr. Shoemaker took up the subject of Poetry, and gave very creditable solutions and explanations of both prosaic and rude text.

Prof. Burtt occupied the last fifteen minutes in some general remarks on methods of teaching—the necessity of accuracy in the use of the rules of arithmetic, correct pronunciation, and never doing for a pupil that which he can do for himself. F.

KITTANNING, PA., December 23, 1870.

The exercises of the Armstrong County Institute were opened yesterday afternoon by Rev. Mr. Jones, in a discussion of what kind of school houses we shall build. Several members of the Institute engaged in the discussion, but no very definite plans for school houses were given. Mr. Gibson was delighted in describing defective buildings now in use.

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The entertainment given last night by the Pittsburgh Quadrille, under the auspices of the Fire Department was successful. Miss Brownlee's voice appeared to be in particularly fine condition, and was highly enjoyed by a number of those present. She is a favorite of the culture and artistic skill. Her rendition of "Robin Adair" was one of the gems of the night. Mr. Lazear we can hardly say too much. Her best efforts were, "Nothing like to Do," and "Comin' thro' the Rye." Mr. McCandless' performance on the violin was listened to was ample evidence of its interest and worth.

Miss Mattie E. Stocks read a very creditable essay on the "Wants of our Public Schools." Four things are needed, good teachers, good boards, good parents and good parents. Students should study economics to learn a worthless or worthless use of time is worse than wasting it. That they must profit by the example of good men; grammar, that they may be able to speak and write correctly; and good habits. Teachers are not quite earnest enough. Let every one do his duty, and all reforms for which teachers hope will soon be realized.

The discussion of the abolition of corporal punishment was then taken up, and participated in by Messrs. of Beatty's Bend, leading. The speaker said this subject, like that of capital punishment, comes to the front from time to time. Some say it is right, and others say it is wrong. Some say it is necessary, and others say without corporal punishment, if possible, and hope of the day when there shall be no necessity for it. He held that it cannot be totally abolished.

Superintendent Gibson, of Indiana county, said the school was not established for the benefit of the teacher, but that object is to inculcate in the minds subjugated, the principles of truth, honesty, virtue, temperance, love, fear and moral wisdom. Corporal punishment should not be inflicted—something more efficient should be resorted to. Teachers have no ways to get rid of it—sacrifice of another, pupils or parents. He had not abolished corporal punishment.

Mr. Harrison said it should not be abolished because there is no substitute for it. Those who favor its abolishment have not suggested a substitute or a requirement as an equivalent for it. Governments have a right to punish offenders—teachers must have the same right. Parents have the right to punish, and they cannot be sacrificed. Authority must be maintained. Mr. Eberhart held that corporal punishment is necessary to the fundamental law of man's social happiness, and that this great principle must be inculcated in the human mind. Moral suasion is ineffective, as one which, if obeyed, will insure their well-being.

Professor Furtt favored the abolition of the rod. He thought the law could be modified. Mr. Sharrard wished to know how moral persuasion can be made to take the place of corporal punishment. Let teachers and others talk upon the subject of the question.

Rev. Mr. Eberhart claimed that as God punishes by corporal punishment, the teacher must have the right to punish.

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The morning session was opened by Mr. H. W. McKee, who conducted the singing exercises. One hour was spent in singing, which was very pleasant, but the result will not be reported until to-morrow morning.

Mr. Eberhart then took up the subject of elocution, giving a full analysis of the subject, and illustrating the same by reading and recitations.

Rev. J. R. Speece read a lecture upon rhetoric, and although it possessed many excellent points, and was written in fair style, it was not delivered in a style suited to didactic subjects. There was too great an effort at oratorical display where none was required. There was only twelve inches above the other, in particular the figures are correct, added but little to his appearance on the platform.

Mr. Shoemaker took up the subject of Poetry, and gave very creditable solutions and explanations of both prosaic and rude text.

Prof. Burtt occupied the last fifteen minutes in some general remarks on methods of teaching—the necessity of accuracy in the use of the rules of arithmetic, correct pronunciation, and never doing for a pupil that which he can do for himself. F.

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The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1870.

PHILADELPHIA, by the liberality of the Central Railroad Company, having progressed so far in raising the means as to render it safe, will now proceed to build four iron steamships of twenty-eight hundred tons each. Two will be built at Wilmington and two on the Delaware, somewhere near Philadelphia, and they will be constructed with as much dispatch as possible. As it is purely an American enterprise, the only one of the kind that can be named, its success will be regarded with interest. Other cities have enlisted foreign capital in their behalf, but Philadelphia "goes it alone," and she deserves to succeed.

MR. KELLEY will probably for the remainder of the session succeed Gen. SCHENCK as Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means. Although Mr. BLAINE will doubtless be re-elected to the speakership, Mr. KELLEY's continuance at the head of the committee may be regarded as somewhat doubtful. Mr. DAWES, who is frequently named in this connection, is understood to decline the position. Mr. HOOPER is the next Massachusetts man, but Gen. GARFIELD, of Ohio, is likely to be Mr. KELLEY's principal opponent. Although the "Reformers" count him as one of their number, he is by no means a free trader, nor, as for that matter, wholly an anti-protectionist, as the "Reformers" define things, nor, as judged of by either location, antecedents or action in Congress.

REVENUE REFORM is but a convenient cloak for Free Trade, and its true character appears in resolutions offered in Congress by the Hon. S. S. Cox, its especial representative from New York. He is opposed to the present Internal Revenue system, but proposes a much worse measure, when he says that the sum deemed proper to be raised by internal taxation "should be assigned in just proportions to the several States, to be collected by the authorities thereof, and paid into the national treasury." Even the Chicago *Times* can't stand that, but says it would "lay an unjust proportion of the burdens of taxation upon the Southern and Western States." But Free Trade means direct taxation, if it means anything, and not in the future, either, but right now. Mr. Cox as an apostle of this British gospel for American hearers is authority as to its purposes, and we can expect not only Internal Revenue, but also all the general government's taxes to be collected by his plan, if the Free Traders get into power.

ACCORDING to a statement in the COMMERCIAL of yesterday, the Atlantic Cable can not be mended before June. Thus we are left entirely dependent for communication with Europe upon the French Cable which works so feebly as to cause anxiety in reference to its continued efficiency. It is rather remarkable that so little has been said concerning the failure of the old cables. People have become so familiar with the comforts and advantages of instantaneous intercourse with the other side of the Atlantic, that they anticipate its cessation almost as little as they anticipate the failure of the sun to rise, or any other constant phenomenon. How could we get on without news from the Franco-German war for a week? And yet the calamity seems by no means among the improbable events of the near future. That uncertainty of the French medium is admitted, and the difficulty experienced in repairing the old cables may reasonably suggest misgivings as to the possibility of repairing them at all. If the difficulty consists in the circumstance that the cable is too weak to sustain its own weight in lifting, it would seem to be worn out. When the project of an Atlantic Cable was first agitated, and afterwards, the possibility of the rapid corrosion of the only coating available was commonly mentioned among the objection to the enterprise. Has the fear been realized, the objection justified by the event? If it should be proved by experience that a cable in salt water lasts only about four years, we need hardly say that the fact is one of vast importance, affecting the pecuniary prospects of many stockholders, and revolutionizing the subject of ocean telegraphy. However new and more durable material may be discovered, or some means of improving the old may be applied. It is, we fancy, certain that the people will have an Atlantic telegraph at whatever cost, even if a new cable shall be required every three or four years. The most important consideration at present is the increased expense of transmission by so costly an apparatus.

THE BRIDGE REPORT.

The report of the Board of Engineers, a synopsis of which appeared in the COMMERCIAL of yesterday, upon the subject of existing and prospective bridges across the Ohio river, evinces a clear and practical comprehension of the questions at issue. The report is conceived in the right spirit, and demonstrates that the survey which they made was not undertaken or prosecuted in the interest of any particular class or party, but in the broad view of a national question in which the rights of all the people were duly and faithfully considered. The Board are right in the position that 400 feet was a compromise measure. The river men claimed 500 feet, but accepted 400 feet; they most certainly understood the guarantee of sufficient headway, or otherwise 400 feet. Any other channel-way would be of no practical use, and it is the failure of the Newport Bridge Company to provide for this required headway that has led to the determined opposition of river men to its construction, in total disregard of the very spirit and understanding of the compromise. "Draws" are utterly useless, so far as the towing trade is concerned, and only of any utility to passenger boats in time of extreme high water; the Board, we are pleased to say, so regard them. The location of piers, at right angles with the currents of the river, is a matter of very great importance in securing the required channel-ways for trade and commerce, and the Board cannot be too highly commended in making this point in their report. The matter is now before Congress. The contest on the question of unobstructed navigation has been a long one. During its pendency the rights of the people have been wantonly abused by private corporations. It is before Congress in a report of disinterested officers of the National Government, characterized by great fairness and a thorough comprehension of the whole matter; and now comes the question: Will Congress act, not promptly, wisely? Or, will the influence of individual and private corporations be permitted to subordinate the rights and privileges of the people? We appeal to Congress to pass over minor matters and give to this subject that careful and impartial attention which its national importance demands.

TURKEY is in a state of readiness for war, if necessary, vastly ahead of anything in her previous history. Her army is on a respectable footing. Some of the largest caliber and of the latest construction, are being sent off to the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, to replace some of the old pieces that were until recently still mounted there; and I am assured that the submarine defenses of Gallipoli, which have been arranged for testing their powers, will be found of the most formidable description. An accomplished naval officer, who saw a great deal of service during the American war, and who had at that time charge of the submarine defenses of the James River, is now actively employed in superintending this work, which, it is expected, will effectually close the two straits against any enemy's vessels that might attempt to enter them.

MAJOR Z. K. PANGBORN, editor of the Jersey City *Journal*, was lately an aspirant for Congress; but failing to get the Republican nomination, he took occasion, in a recent speech, to scold the politicians who caused his defeat (as the Jersey City *Times* says), in the following manner:

But these men—I will not call them wire-pullers, but their deeds cannot be measured by the standard of intrinsic worth. I will not assert that they are political swindlers, but I must aver that their actions cannot be weighed in the scales of honest men. These men, my friends, my faithful friends, ought to be *licked to death by a jackass*, and *I would like to be the one to do it.*

This is literally writing one's self down an ass.

IN writing of the two hundred and fiftieth centennial of the landing at Plymouth, a Boston paper, the *Advertiser*, frankly confesses: "Much has been claimed for the Pilgrims which does not belong to them, which they themselves would have repudiated if they had had anything with them freedom of thought and religious toleration. They did not bring the equality of man. But they brought the seed from which both of the great growing springs of liberty started. It was they built the school house, and compelled every child to go to school. They founded the school-fund, and the college not long after; and to those two institutions we owe the Declaration of Independence in the last century and the proclamation of Emancipation in this."

THE announcement which oft contemporaries of the country press are making, "no paper next week" thereby intimating that they are going to have a "jolly Christmas", strongly inclines us to wish we were one of 'm. But a saddle of venison from one of the many crack shots among the fraternity might do considerable towards assuaging our grief."

SOME persons are desirous of knowing whether the "could swing" has any relation to the sun's total eclipse on Thursday.

According to the Philadelphia *Day*, the election of Dechert, Democrat, to the First Senatorial District, was the work of Republicans who desire "to make one branch of the Legislature a check upon the other, and thus secure a fair application of sound and fair legislation generally." That paper says:

"There are many Republicans in the First District who are grateful with the result of Tuesday, notwithstanding their high respect, and confidence in Lyndall. They have confidence in the personal integrity as well as the capacity of Chauncey Lyndall, and regard his political position, under the circumstances, as fortunate, in view of the facts and for the reasons above given."

We fancy it will be a long time before Democrats reciprocate the compliment. The *North American* seems to coincide with the view taken by the *Day*, for it says: "A wholesome rest will seem advisable to correct extravagant excesses which were leading to the despotism of reckless and desperate men." The same paper remarks further:

"An election of State Treasurer is made on joint ballot, and in that case the Republicans have a working majority. Our present Treasurer is a Republican, and there can be no doubt that his place will be held over. Manifestly there can now be no election of Treasurer for factious ends. No Republican need be surprised for ratting the Democratic candidate for failing to vote for an improper candidate, or one set up in the heat of a faction. Such understandings have been arranged for a combination of Democrats and bolting Republicans to trade off the Senatorship of the Senate for the Treasurer, is defeated by the election of Colonel Dechert, the plan losing now useless. All these combinations have a result looking to the next election for United States Senator, which has caused the defeat of Mr. Lyndall and of three other Republican candidates for the Senate.

DURING the last ten years, under our present tariff laws, have sprung up in Chicago manufacturing establishments representing a capital of $27,949,000, and producing annually $62,736,000. They give employment and sustenance to one-fourth the population directly, and indirectly to many more. Could Chicago have expected this under free-trade? Again, St. Louis has $41,000,000 invested in such establishments, and 32,000 of her inhabitants engaged in their working. What would be the effect of putting out the fires and stopping the wheels by free trade?

A PENNSYLVANIA court having made a decision giving an opposite interpretation, General Butler proposes an amendment to the bankrupt law, that nothing in it shall be held to divest the wife of a bankrupt of her right of her dower in her husband's estate. The *second* section of his bill includes railroads among the "corporations" that can take the benefits of the law. Two States have decided that railroads can be put into bankruptcy, and three other States have decided they cannot, and a final decision of the question is important.

THE latest explanation of the Republican defeat in the First Senatorial District, Philadelphia, is that the election coming on the next but one of the shortest days of the year, the Republicans had not time as on other days to get out their vote, and so failed. Clearly, a fearful responsibility rests somewhere for making so great a mistake in selecting the day for holding the election. Probably it was a "Cameron dodge." Let's have an investigation by all means.

THE language of the President in the little speech to those who serenaded him a few evenings since, to the effect that the question of remodeling the National Capital should be disposed of by a constitutional amendment, should not be seriously objected to by the friends of removal, since it is not altogether certain that not a *long* time will have such a proposition would not receive the approval of the requisite number of States.

THE New York *Herald*, which declares that "all through the Roman Papal trouble it has been endeavoring to do justice to the Pope and the Italian Government," strongly advises His Holiness to remain in Rome, because his leaving "would damage the interest which he so nobly represents." It is conceded that the case has its extreme difficulties, but the *Herald* kindly assures His Holiness that he can't help himself. The language employed to convey this advice is so paternally friendly that we cannot forbear to give it, as follows:

We have looked over and thought over the nineteen articles of the bill now before the Parliament of Italy; and after some patient consideration we have come to the conclusion that if the bill becomes law in the shape and spirit in which it is now before us the Pope ought to accept the situation and be thankful. As wheat and tares grow, so far as we see, is not possible in the circumstances. If the Holy Father remains irreconcilable the difficulty will be aggravated; but on settlement may be less to his advantage. Make peace in time is our advice. A good arrangement, when a worse is rather than a better is likely, ought to be preferred.

It is expected that the Pope like a "good fellow" will just accept this advice and keep quiet!

A WASHINGTON letter to the New York *Tribune*, which is specially commended for the accuracy of its observations—probably no less person than Mr. Greeley himself—among other things touching the future of the Republican party, has the following about the Presidency:

"On answer to the question, Who will be the Republican candidate for President in 1872? there is thus far but one reply, and that is, General Grant. It is asserted that he has been in private conversation within a year, and some even insist that his administration can be plausibly charged with grave errors; but there is thought to be no man who can command so much popular strength, and he has yet time to correct mistakes, and to see that enough for economy, suiting the harmony of his party, and thus freeing it from any danger of disintegration. The nomination of Grant is looked upon as inevitable by perhaps a majority of the Republicans in Congress, and there would be an air about the result of the election even if he would use his influence to heal the feuds already existing, and to prevent the occurrence of any new ones. Especially ought the Missouri split to be allowed to go no further."

THE *Tribune* says of Secretary Boutwell just what everybody is thinking, with the liveliest satisfaction, too, and at a time when such thinking constitutes the exception rather than the rule—at least till the advent of the present administration. Higher praise could scarcely be uttered of a public official:

"In this day of widespread venality and of sweeping charges of corruption, it might be deemed remarkable that no whisper of reproach or accusation has sought to tarnish the good name of the Secretary of the Treasury. Many are from time to time compelled to dissent from one or another of his suggestions, but no man has hinted a doubt of his perfect integrity. If there be corruptionists afraid of his high position to enrich its holder, the whole country knows that he has never sought to profit by them. With millions subject to his will, he still lives in office poorer than he entered it. And his unwearying fidelity to every duty and shade of duty, his unbesitating championship of early resumption, and his manful resistance of the demagogue race for preference in distributing the revenue and thus defeating the payment of the national debt, have justly given him a strong hold on the confidence and support of the better portion of the American people."

A PARISIAN in New York asks the editor of the *World* to do this: "Do inform all those Franco-American newspapers that Paris is eight miles in diameter, and that King William's so-called target (Notre Dame Cathedral) is in the center of the city; that to say, from the ramparts from the nearest fortified wall. Tell them that the circle of forts outside of these fortifications are some thirty in number, and from two to five miles from said fortified walls, and that the Prussian lines are not further advanced than from five to eight miles from the forts (that is to say, from eleven to seventeen miles from the beautiful cathedral of Notre Dame), wherefore they have not been able to send a single shot to do any damage. Tell them that the reason why they have not advanced nearer, and why they cannot come nearer, is that the short distances between the forts and their guns have been so much further than the ranges. And then if they really believe that the Prussians can send a ball or shell even in the direction of Paris from the positions they hold at present."

An article upon the sensational business in New York says that good stock actors can earn from $75 to $150 per week. This may seem handsome wages, but one must consider the cost of costumes and other expenses. A first-class dress for a character actress sometimes cost $500, and sometimes ten times that sum. Stock actors, when favorites with the public, will remain in one service for years, but must maintain his popularity. If he be hissed once in a decided manner it is fatal. Stage walkers are those who simply fill up the ranks on the stage for appearance sake, and take occasional part in the dialogue. They receive from $20 to $30 per week, and can attend to other business during the day. Stage-setters are paid $30 per week, and are required to be expert in that business, as a slight misunderstanding would endanger the machinery in a very annoying manner. Among the best paid officials are the ticket sellers. These men are not subscribers of the *gold-book*. On the other hand, they are down-town bankers, bank-clerks, and are first-rate judges of currency. There is such an increased attempt to pass bad money now by those who are ignorant of the vigilance maintained at the ticket-box that such men are necessary. I well remember Mr. R., the receiver-teller of the North River Bank, who subsequently has become cashier of another flourishing institution, had charge of the box for a year, making daily deposits at his counter, and learned that he counted every dollar bill in the box—bad money. One evening I went to the theater, and what was my surprise on applying for a ticket to find Mr. R. sitting behind the pigeon-hole. A look of recognition explained all. The poor bank-clerk earned enough in this way to pay his house rent, and his value to his employers may be judged by the fact that he rejected from $35 to $50 bad money every night.

The Whisky Tax.

Judge Kelley is not content to let the matter of increasing the whisky tax, but believes it to be a "job" to enrich some speculators, as indeed is most likely. Indeed, every member of the Ways and Means Committee will oppose the increase of any internal revenue tax. In regard to the views of dealers, the Washington correspondent of the New York *Journal of Commerce* says: "The Kentucky distillers are principally represented here by an advocate of the increase. The western Pennsylvania distillers are principally represented by an opponent of the increase. The former argues that the distillers have been obliged to stop work for several months, and that the only way they can save themselves from loss is by an increase of tax. The latter argues that the only thing necessary to be done by the Government for the relief of distillers is to cancel their special and corporate taxes, and permit them a liberal export bond so as to free the Eastern market of its surplus. This latter the Revenue Department is willing to recommend. He argues that a distiller finds it a difficult matter sometimes to raise the amount necessary to liberate stock from bond, even at fifty cents per gallon tax, and he does not know what they would do if the tax was one dollar per gallon. Even the agents in charge of the statements made from figures at the Revenue Department, that statistics of the stock on hand on the 1st of October next year, will show that there is a clear margin for the manufacture this year. They agree that the market is now very much overstocked for Pennsylvania, the only outlet for the stock must be to foreign countries, but that they cannot export at a profit under the present bond."

PERSONAL.

D. T. Jewett, the new Missouri Senator, is a native of Maine and sixty years old. He was lawyer, politician, and was a leader in the Missouri Legislature while there, and prepared the specifications, charges, &c., connected with Judge Hoodley's impeachment. He takes his seat on the 4th of March, and as the next Legislature will elect a Senator. But for his fortnight's service, custom gives him full mileage and a year's salary.

One of the "solid men of Boston," who for twenty-five years has furnished an evening paper with weather reports, &c., is agnanition of Hon. T. Paine, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He has a retentive a memory that he can tell you the peculiarities of the weather upon almost any day during the past five-and-forty years, and he is regarded as official authority, in these parts, on such matters, he being often called upon to settle wagers and disputes as to the state of the weather or the position of the barometer on certain days, in cases where questions of fact arise in judicial proceedings.

Ex-Governor Blair, of Michigan, whenever he traveled on official duty, never charged the State except for money actually paid out, crediting it with every dollar saved and all "dead-heading," and this too on $1,000 salary.

Secretary Robeson has sent a letter to Admiral Porter cordially inviting him to visit the Navy Department whenever he chooses, and assuring him that he should have gained a knowledge of valuable information on naval matters that the Admiral might favor him with. It would thus appear that the breach has been partially healed over.

On the night before Porter's fatal letter came out, the President was at the Admiral's house. "Ah," said Grant, "I like to come over, Porter, to see you and get away from the politicians and have a quiet smoke." And continued Grant, "you are not social enough. Your wife must come and see us. Come over with her to-morrow and dine with us." The Admiral accepted the invitation, but has not yet received the dinner.

SMALL NOTES.

In England the President's message has just been received in full and favorable but the leading rads have made their comments. The *Times* thinks that Grant has discovered his administration to be overwise at home,—his chances for the next Presidency decreasing,—hence that he desires to draw off public attention to foreign affairs, "bidding for domestic support by menacing European powers." His language does not warrant any hope of the settlement of the Alabama claims. As to the Cuba imbroglio, if the President "listened to with the keenest desire to satisfy every complaint." The *Times* allows that [illegible] President in reference to this question. It says finally that the document is most important in marking another stage in the decline of the President's career.

The *Daily News* intimates in reference to the "claims," that we, after having made the English a proposition which was accepted, should at least give some reason why we now reject it—that General Grant evidently wishes them to acknowledge a bill before the amount of it is known; to give a promise to pay, allowing the Americans "to fill in a note." This being so, General Grant will leave the settlement to his successor. The President has taken the very best way to hinder negotiations on the Canadian question.

The *Post* observes that if the Czar of Russia, or Prussian King had meditated war on England they would have used just such language as Grant, but American Presidents are not to be measured by the same standard as European rulers, since the language of the former must be largely discounted.

The *Telegraph* says that, if the sentiments of the message are those of the American people,—a real desire for settlement, and bringing the controversy to a close,—on its side the dispute is at an end. But can the *Telegraph* believe that any of the matters in dispute will lead to war. The *Standard* views the message in an unfavorable light, thinking it not conciliatory although not bellicose; yet liable to inflame popular excitement and mutual irritation. The *Daily Mail Gazette* "is not fearful" that there will be war, that the tone of the document is warlike, and altogether indicates a flutter at the bottom. It cannot understand the deliberate attempt to exasperate the Canadian fishery nobehill into a mountain" unless this were true.

The *Gazette* then expresses regret that the British Empire should be responsible for the effects of the political and public action of the Dominion, and does not consider the tender policy of the British Foreign Office toward the complaints and pretensions of the United States as wise.

Those London "leaders" give the cue to all English journals, hence we can expect nothing but a storm of abuse, sarcasm, and so-called English superiority therefrom.

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It is expected that the Pope like a "good fellow" will just accept this advice and keep quiet!

A WASHINGTON letter to the New York *Tribune*, which is specially commended for the accuracy of its observations—probably no less person than Mr. Greeley himself—among other things touching the future of the Republican party, has the following about the Presidency:

"On answer to the question, Who will be the Republican candidate for President in 1872? there is thus far but one reply, and that is, General Grant. It is asserted that he has been in private conversation within a year, and some even insist that his administration can be plausibly charged with grave errors; but there is thought to be no man who can command so much popular strength, and he has yet time to correct mistakes, and to see that enough for economy, suiting the harmony of his party, and thus freeing it from any danger of disintegration. The nomination of Grant is looked upon as inevitable by perhaps a majority of the Republicans in Congress, and there would be an air about the result of the election even if he would use his influence to heal the feuds already existing, and to prevent the occurrence of any new ones. Especially ought the Missouri split to be allowed to go no further."

THE *Tribune* says of Secretary Boutwell just what everybody is thinking, with the liveliest satisfaction, too, and at a time when such thinking constitutes the exception rather than the rule—at least till the advent of the present administration. Higher praise could scarcely be uttered of a public official:

"In this day of widespread venality and of sweeping charges of corruption, it might be deemed remarkable that no whisper of reproach or accusation has sought to tarnish the good name of the Secretary of the Treasury. Many are from time to time compelled to dissent from one or another of his suggestions, but no man has hinted a doubt of his perfect integrity. If there be corruptionists afraid of his high position to enrich its holder, the whole country knows that he has never sought to profit by them. With millions subject to his will, he still lives in office poorer than he entered it. And his unwearying fidelity to every duty and shade of duty, his unbesitating championship of early resumption, and his manful resistance of the demagogue race for preference in distributing the revenue and thus defeating the payment of the national debt, have justly given him a strong hold on the confidence and support of the better portion of the American people."

A PARISIAN in New York asks the editor of the *World* to do this: "Do inform all those Franco-American newspapers that Paris is eight miles in diameter, and that King William's so-called target (Notre Dame Cathedral) is in the center of the city; that to say, from the ramparts from the nearest fortified wall. Tell them that the circle of forts outside of these fortifications are some thirty in number, and from two to five miles from said fortified walls, and that the Prussian lines are not further advanced than from five to eight miles from the forts (that is to say, from eleven to seventeen miles from the beautiful cathedral of Notre Dame), wherefore they have not been able to send a single shot to do any damage. Tell them that the reason why they have not advanced nearer, and why they cannot come nearer, is that the short distances between the forts and their guns have been so much further than the ranges. And then if they really believe that the Prussians can send a ball or shell even in the direction of Paris from the positions they hold at present."

An article upon the sensational business in New York says that good stock actors can earn from $75 to $150 per week. This may seem handsome wages, but one must consider the cost of costumes and other expenses. A first-class dress for a character actress sometimes cost $500, and sometimes ten times that sum. Stock actors, when favorites with the public, will remain in one service for years, but must maintain his popularity. If he be hissed once in a decided manner it is fatal. Stage walkers are those who simply fill up the ranks on the stage for appearance sake, and take occasional part in the dialogue. They receive from $20 to $30 per week, and can attend to other business during the day. Stage-setters are paid $30 per week, and are required to be expert in that business, as a slight misunderstanding would endanger the machinery in a very annoying manner. Among the best paid officials are the ticket sellers. These men are not subscribers of the *gold-book*. On the other hand, they are down-town bankers, bank-clerks, and are first-rate judges of currency. There is such an increased attempt to pass bad money now by those who are ignorant of the vigilance maintained at the ticket-box that such men are necessary. I well remember Mr. R., the receiver-teller of the North River Bank, who subsequently has become cashier of another flourishing institution, had charge of the box for a year, making daily deposits at his counter, and learned that he counted every dollar bill in the box—bad money. One evening I went to the theater, and what was my surprise on applying for a ticket to find Mr. R. sitting behind the pigeon-hole. A look of recognition explained all. The poor bank-clerk earned enough in this way to pay his house rent, and his value to his employers may be judged by the fact that he rejected from $35 to $50 bad money every night.

The Whisky Tax.

Judge Kelley is not content to let the matter of increasing the whisky tax, but believes it to be a "job" to enrich some speculators, as indeed is most likely. Indeed, every member of the Ways and Means Committee will oppose the increase of any internal revenue tax. In regard to the views of dealers, the Washington correspondent of the New York *Journal of Commerce* says: "The Kentucky distillers are principally represented here by an advocate of the increase. The western Pennsylvania distillers are principally represented by an opponent of the increase. The former argues that the distillers have been obliged to stop work for several months, and that the only way they can save themselves from loss is by an increase of tax. The latter argues that the only thing necessary to be done by the Government for the relief of distillers is to cancel their special and corporate taxes, and permit them a liberal export bond so as to free the Eastern market of its surplus. This latter the Revenue Department is willing to recommend. He argues that a distiller finds it a difficult matter sometimes to raise the amount necessary to liberate stock from bond, even at fifty cents per gallon tax, and he does not know what they would do if the tax was one dollar per gallon. Even the agents in charge of the statements made from figures at the Revenue Department, that statistics of the stock on hand on the 1st of October next year, will show that there is a clear margin for the manufacture this year. They agree that the market is now very much overstocked for Pennsylvania, the only outlet for the stock must be to foreign countries, but that they cannot export at a profit under the present bond."

PERSONAL.

D. T. Jewett, the new Missouri Senator, is a native of Maine and sixty years old. He was lawyer, politician, and was a leader in the Missouri Legislature while there, and prepared the specifications, charges, &c., connected with Judge Hoodley's impeachment. He takes his seat on the 4th of March, and as the next Legislature will elect a Senator. But for his fortnight's service, custom gives him full mileage and a year's salary.

One of the "solid men of Boston," who for twenty-five years has furnished an evening paper with weather reports, &c., is agnanition of Hon. T. Paine, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He has a retentive a memory that he can tell you the peculiarities of the weather upon almost any day during the past five-and-forty years, and he is regarded as official authority, in these parts, on such matters, he being often called upon to settle wagers and disputes as to the state of the weather or the position of the barometer on certain days, in cases where questions of fact arise in judicial proceedings.

Ex-Governor Blair, of Michigan, whenever he traveled on official duty, never charged the State except for money actually paid out, crediting it with every dollar saved and all "dead-heading," and this too on $1,000 salary.

Secretary Robeson has sent a letter to Admiral Porter cordially inviting him to visit the Navy Department whenever he chooses, and assuring him that he should have gained a knowledge of valuable information on naval matters that the Admiral might favor him with. It would thus appear that the breach has been partially healed over.

On the night before Porter's fatal letter came out, the President was at the Admiral's house. "Ah," said Grant, "I like to come over, Porter, to see you and get away from the politicians and have a quiet smoke." And continued Grant, "you are not social enough. Your wife must come and see us. Come over with her to-morrow and dine with us." The Admiral accepted the invitation, but has not yet received the dinner.

Nilsson in Chicago.

The critic of the *Republican* speaks of Nilsson's first night in that city as follows:

On the whole, Mdlle. Nilsson's success was quite as pronounced as we had anticipated from her high reputation and the general good taste of Chicago audiences (not to brag especially on Chicago *fashionable* audiences.) Albeit, there were not wanting many who confessed to a disappointment in the lady's vocal abilities. The greatest charm about her singing is undoubtedly its perfect art; its finish; its symmetry; and the highly dramatic quality which her command of all the resources of the singer, the actress, and the woman enable her to impart to all her performances. Her voice is at once sweet and penetrating, without being large or powerful, as that word is generally used in this connection. It has the peculiarly charming Swedish *timbre*, and in flexibility and other capabilities of the trained organ, lacks absolutely nothing within the range in which it is used. She executes a run with astonishing clearness and rapidity, and uses with beautiful effect that oft abused grace, the appoggiatura; but whatever of art she employs, she has the superior art to conceal, so that it all seems spontaneous and natural. How many *prima donne* have really this accomplishment? Not so many, we fancy, that you can count them on your fingers, if you haven't but a single handful of them. You may call her singing like her thousand different poses and expressions during the evening, statuesque; and you would be disposed to call it marble-like in its coldness as well as its polish, if you did not become occasionally melted by it, or did not see the glances "to kill in a rage," given to her by the audience. This being so, General Grant will leave the settlement to his successor. The President has taken the very best way to hinder negotiations on the Canadian question.

The *Post* observes that if the Czar of Russia, or Prussian King had meditated war on England they would have used just such language as Grant, but American Presidents are not to be measured by the same standard as European rulers, since the language of the former must be largely discounted.

The *Telegraph* says that, if the sentiments of the message are those of the American people,—a real desire for settlement, and bringing the controversy to a close,—on its side the dispute is at an end. But can the *Telegraph* believe that any of the matters in dispute will lead to war. The *Standard* views the message in an unfavorable light, thinking it not conciliatory although not bellicose; yet liable to inflame popular excitement and mutual irritation. The *Daily Mail Gazette* "is not fearful" that there will be war, that the tone of the document is warlike, and altogether indicates a flutter at the bottom. It cannot understand the deliberate attempt to exasperate the Canadian fishery nobehill into a mountain" unless this were true.

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An Absolute Safe Guard.

Invalids, broken down in health and spirits by Chronic Dyspepsia, suffering from the torpid exhaustion which follows the attacks of acute disease, the testimony of thousands who have been raised as by a miracle from a similar state of prostration by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, is a sure guarantee that by the same means *you* too may be strengthened and restored. But to those who stand in peril of epidemics, to all who, by reason of exposure, privations, and uncongenial climate or unhealthy pursuits, may at any moment be stricken down, this paragraph is most *particularly* and *emphatically* addressed. You, who are thus situated, are proffered an absolute safeguard against the danger that menaces you. Tone and regulate the system with this harmless medicinal Stimulant and preventive, and you will be forearmed against the maladies whose seeds float around you in the air unseen. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters are not only a standard Tonic and Alterative throughout the United States, but they are accredited by the certificates of the most distinguished citizens of the Union, to the people of all other lands. In Canada, Australia and the West Indies, they are gradually taking place of all other stomachics, whether native or foreign, and as surely as truth is progressive and demonstration overthrows doubt, they will eventually supersede every other invigorant and Restorative now employed in medicinal practice.

Lubin's French Extracts
Lubin's French Soaps,
Lubin's French Sachets,
Thomas' Hair Brushes,
Bayley's Ess. Bouquet,
Low's Fine Extracts,
Low's Celebrated Soaps,
Squire's Glycerine Soap
Price's Glycerine Soap,
Sarg's Vienna Soap,
Brecknell's Skin Soap,
Brandy & Sherry Wine,
Cigars de Joy, for Asthma

With other Choice Goods, all of my own personal selection and importation.

SIMON JOHNSTON,
Corner Smithfield Street and Fourth Avenue,
SOLE AGENT FOR
PETER SQUIRE'S LONDON MEDICINAL EXTRACTS AND CHEMICALS.

DENTISTRY.

Dr. W. F. FUNDENBERG,

Has Resumed the Practice of his Profession, at No. 106 FOURTH AVENUE, between Wood and Smithfield streets. 4

EDUCATIONAL.

INGLESIDE SEMINARY,
1,532 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Thirty-fourth Session of this English and French Boarding and Day School for Young Ladies will commence TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1871. Classes re-formed January 4. Circulars sent on application.

PENNSYLVANIA
MILITARY ACADEMY,
At Chester, Delaware County, Pa.
(FOR RESIDENT CADETS ONLY).

Session Reopens Wednesday, January 4th.

The Buildings have been erected and furnished completely at a cost of OVER HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

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The Military System of the United States Military Academy governs their time exclusively in the Departments of MATHEMATICS and CIVIL ENGINEERING.

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CHAS. H. PAULSON,
80 Wood street, Pittsburgh, or to
Col. THEO. HYATT,
President P. M. A.

HOLLIDAYSBURG SEMINARY
ELEVENTH SESSION
OPENS JANUARY 4, 1871.

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Persons intending to set out Orchards or Beautify their Grounds, should examine our immense stock of

Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, Cherry and Ornamental Trees.

Evergreens, Roses, Shrubbery, Conover's Colossal, Asparagus, Greenhouse Plants, &c., &c.

ALL OF OUR OWN GROWTH.

Also, a large selected stock of

Imported Bulbous Roots,
Wholesale and Retail, by
J. R. & A. MURDOCH,
112 SMITHFIELD STREET.

DISSOLUTION.—THE FIRM OF DRAPER & ROBERTSON at Pittsburgh, the FIRE day of December, A.D. 1870. The undersigned gives notice that, pursuant to order of Court in Bankruptcy, Samuel Wood General Assignee of the Creditors of ANDERSON J. HAGAN, Bankrupt, will be held at the office of JAS. W. KNAPP, Esq., Register in Bankruptcy, in said city, on the 6th DAY OF JANUARY, A. D. 1871, at 10 o'clock A. M., for the purpose named in the 27th section of the Bankrupt Act of March 2, 1867.
JOHN H. BAILEY,
Attorney at Law, 89 Grant street.

FERRIS & MILES,
TWENTY-FOURTH AND WOOD STREETS,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
IMPROVED STEAM HAMMERS AND MACHINE TOOLS,
Unequalled for Simplicity, Convenience, Economy and Power.

DRY GOODS.

Jos. Horne & Co.,
Wholesale and Retail Dealers in
NOTIONS,
TRIMMINGS,
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Stock Always Complete. Orders Promptly Filled.
77 AND 79 MARKET STREET.

ASTRACHAN SACKS,
Velvet Sacks,
Cloth Sacks,
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WHITE, ORR & CO.,
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THE RICHMOND M'F'G CO.
Offer to Package Buyers Only, their
Quaker Styles
OF
RICHMOND PRINTS,
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"QUAKER STYLES"
Are suitable for every Lady, old or young. They are proper for all seasons. They never go out of fashion.
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RETAILERS and CONSUMERS should ASK FOR Richmond "Quaker" Prints.

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Silks, Poplins, Empress Cloths.
Biarritz, Black and Colored.
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Velveteens, Velvets and Satins for Trimmings.
Black Silk Mantilla Velvets.
Astrachans, Plushes and Fancy Cloakings.
Cloth Sacques and Basques.
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James Caldwell,
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STANDARD
SHEETINGS,
REDUCED TO
12 Cents per Yard,
STANDARD
PRINTS,
10 1-2 Cts. Per Yard,
The Lowest Prices
FOR NINE YEARS.

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WHOLESALE
DRY GOODS,
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Jas. T. Brady & Co.,

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Corner Wood and Fourth Avenue,

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

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ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

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BANKERS,

DEALERS IN

Government Securities

AND

GOLD,

Collections Made on All Accessible Points

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

FOURTH AVE. AND SMITHFIELD STREET.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, December 23, 1870.

The discount business at the banks and counters of individual bankers has narrowed down to a small scale. It is almost folly to ask for a discount. Money has become too scarce, and little relief is expected within the next fortnight. Currency continues scarce, but not so much so as earlier in the week. Christmas coming on Sunday this year, all notes or contracts falling due on Monday, the 26th, must be paid on Saturday. Monday will be observed as a close holiday by the banks and business houses generally.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Closing.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	113	113	113
U. S. Bonds of 1862	107¼	107¼	107¼
U. S. Bonds of 1864	106½	107	106½
U. S. Bonds of 1865	107	107	107¼
U. S. Bonds of 1867 (new)	109½	109½	109½
U. S. Bonds of 1867	109½	109½	109½
U. S. Bonds of 1868	110½	110½	110½
10-40s	106¾	106¾	106¾
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	110¾
United States 6s of 1881	113
United States 5-20s of 1862	107¼
United States 5-20s of 1864	106½
United States 5-20s of 1865	106¾
United States 5-20s of 1865, January and July, 1865	109¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	109½
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	110¼
Union Pacific Railroad	82¾
Central Pacific Railroad	93
Currency Funding	109¾

—The New York stock market evinces a steadier and firmer tone to-day. The *Evening Post* of yesterday says: We hear of orders from investors to buy some of the dividend-paying stocks which have declined most during the past ten days. There are foreign orders in the market to buy Northwest. The fluctuations in the stocks named have been inside of ¾ per cent.

—The following is the official comparative statement of earnings and expenses of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company for the six months of the fiscal year 1869-70, ending November 30:

	Gross earnings.	Operating expenses, &c.	Net Income.
	1870.		
June	$1,251,950 64	$926,433 15	$325,517 49
July	1,157,156 98	1,246,439 51	910,717 47
August	1,220,596 53	1,038,905 61	181,690 92
September	1,307,672 75	1,007,779 56	299,893 19
October	1,307,672 75	1,007,779 56	304,397 99
November	1,160,165 33	854,491 96	305,693 37
	1869.		
	$7,204,579 24	$5,530,977 61	$1,733,601 13
	1870.		
June	$1,159,584 13	$789,987 96	$369,246 17
July	96,150 61	96,150 61	
August	1,227,522 89	642,356 34	585,176 55
September	1,254,458 97	695,000 00	559,458 97
October	1,296,938 16	960,780 64	402,341 52
November	1,205,365 36	803,633 44	401,731 92
Total	$7,007,774 00	$4,580,230 36	$2,414,543 64
Increase			693,941 91
Decrease	238,805 24	950,647 15	
Balance to credit of Income Account, May 31, 1870			$541,434 29
Net earnings six months, ending November 30, 1870			2,414,543 64
Total net earnings, as of November 30, 1870			$2,955,977 93
Deduct five per cent. dividend payable December 30, 1870			1,750,940 00
Surplus December 1, 1870			$1,205,037 93

—The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Jones' Banking House, Republic building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

December 23, 1870.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.
C. & H.	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½
Del. Lack.	97	97	97	97	97
Erie	38½	38¾	38¾	38¾	38¾
Reading	98	98	98	98	98
Harlem	129	129		129	
Mich. Cent.		116		116	
Lake Shore	91	91½	91½	91½	91½
Illinois Cent.		134		134	
Cleve. & Pitts.		93		93	
C. & N. W.	70¾	70¾	70¾	70¾	70¾
Do. pref.	85	85	85	85	85
Rock Island	102	102	102½	102	102½
Sk. Paul	55	55	55	55	55
Do. pref.	79	79	79	79	79
Pitt. & Wabash					
Do. pref.					
Fort W.		95		95	
Chic. & Rock I.	97	97	97	97	97
Chic. & Alton		115		115	
Do. pref.					
T. P. & W.		49		49	
N. J. Central					
Canton	45	45	44½	44½	44½
W. U. Tel.					
Quicksilver	29	28¾	29	29	29
Pacific Mail					
Adams Ex.					
Wells, F. & Co.					
American Ex.					
U. S. Ex.					
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾

A comparison between yesterday's and to-day's quotations shows the following changes:

	Yesterday.	To-day.	Adv.	Dec.
Central & Hudson	90¾	90¾		
Do. Scrip	87¾	87¾		
Erie	38¾	38¾		
Reading	98	98		
Harlem	129	129		
Illinois Central	134	134		
Lake Shore	90¾	91¼	¼	
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	93	93		
Chicago & Northwestern	70¾	70¾		
Do. preferred	85	85		
Rock Island	101¾	102	¼	
St. Paul	55	55		
Do. preferred	79	79		
Toledo & Wabash	47¾	48	¼	
Do. preferred	69	69		
Fort Wayne	92¾	92¾		
Ohio & Mississippi	27¾	27¾		
Pacific Mail	29¾	29¾		
Adams Express	64¾	64		¾
Gold	110¾	110¾		

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	61¾
Philadelphia and Erie	33½
Lehigh Navigation	57¾
Catawissa preferred	37¾
Old Creek and Allegheny Railroad	45
North Pennsylvania Railroad	53
Camden and Amboy Railroad	118½
Schuylkill Navigation	16
Reading	97¼

—JAMES W. KENNEDY, Broker, No. 89 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in Government, State and Municipal Bonds; Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange. Buys and sells stocks for on a margin for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money to loan in sums of $500 and upwards on collateral or well indorsed promissory notes, or on mortgages on city or Allegheny county real estate.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
FRIDAY, December 23, 1870.

REMARKS.—The weather still continues extremely cold, which has had the effect of retarding business operations generally, and as a consequence dealers generally report a dull market. But this was looked for, even without the "cold snap," in view of the near approach of the new year, and the going into effect of the new tariff. The rivers are still full of floating ice, and navigation, just now, is out of the question. Flour—The supply in both mills and stores is large, and prices are firm and unchanged. There is no disposition on the part of holders to offer inducements to effect sales. Receipts since our last 2,986 bbls. Grain—the receipts have fallen off slightly, though there is no change in prices. Groceries—We have no change to note in prices. A fair trade for the season is reported, particularly in sugars. Dressed Hogs—The supply is very large, and prices are weaker. Bacon and Provisions—We are reported a fair trade demand, notwithstanding the fact that this is the poultry season. The local market is abundantly supplied.

The following are the wholesale prices, unless otherwise noted:

ASHES—The receipts continue liberal, the supply on the market being sufficient for all ordinary purposes. We are reported sales of refined 55 ₩ cent. at 5¾@6c; common 46 ₩ cent. Pearls, potash 7@7½c; pearls 9@9½c.

APPLE BUTTER—The receipts have increased and prices have declined; we are reported sales of a regular way at 60@70c ₩ gallon.

APPLES—The supply is ample, and a great trade reported at $2 25@2 50 for common to fair, and $3 25@3 50 ₩ barrel for choice lots. The receipts were 59 barrels.

BAR LEAD—Sales in a regular way at 10½c. ₩ lb.

BACON CURED—Supply liberal, sales of 15@15c ₩ lb.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—We are reported a fair trade demand at unchanged prices. We quote: New sugar-cured hams 18c@19c; breakfast bacon 16@17c; shoulders 12c; dried beef 14c; pickled hams from smoke house. Mess pork $20 00@20 50 ₩ barrel, and in sheets 19½c. ₩ lb. Lard in tierces 12½c; kegs 13c. Mince meat 16c@16½c ₩ lb.

BRAN—Regular sales made at $1 75@1 85 ₩ bushel, as per quality. The latter for small lots.

BEESWAX—Market firm; sales reported at 26@26c. ₩ lb.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—There is a fair supply, and we quote at $3 25@3 50 ₩ cwt., and $6 50@7 00 ₩ bbl.

BUTTER—There is a good demand for choice roll for table use, the current rates being 28@30c; common lots sold from 18 to 25c ₩ lb; receipts were 119 packages.

BAKING POWDER—Banner, ¾-lb cans, $1 75 ₩ doz.; ½-lb cans ₩ 1 doz.; 1-lb cans, ₩ ½ doz.

COAL—Sales of Eastern anthracite at $7@8 50 ₩ ton by the car load, delivered.

CANDLES—In good supply; sales of mold at 12½c; star, full weight, 20c; short weight, 17c; stearine 30c ₩ lb.

CIDER—The demand for good cider has increased, and sales are readily made at $6 50@8 00 ₩ bbl.

CRANBERRIES—Receipts from Pennsylvania at $5 75@6 00; Philadelphia $5 75.

CORN MEAL—Market well supplied; sales in a small way at 70@75c ₩ bushel.

CRANBERRIES—Supply fair, with sales of Saxton's Helm cranberries at 10c; small lots could be obtained at 9@10c ₩ lb.

CHEESE—Sales of Louisville Axtegrade at 19@19½c ₩ barrel. Phœnix hydraulic 20 to 22 ₩ barrel.

CARBON OIL—Prices are weak, with sales unrefined crude, in new tankage, at 20c ₩ gallon in a jobbing way, and 21½c ₩ gallon in small lots.

CREESE—We have no changes to note in prices.

New York dressed fetches 15½@15½c; Ohio Goshen 15½@16c; Ohio factory 15@15½c; Western Reserve 15@16c; Sweitzer 18@19c ₩ lb. The receipts were 25 boxes.

DRIED FRUIT—The supply is fully up to the demand, with sales at the following: Peaches—quarter 8@8½c; halves 12@12½c. Apples 6½c; sliced 9c ₩ lb. Blackberries 12@13c ₩ lb.

FEATHERS—There is a fair demand. We quote prime 44@45c; currants 18@2c; layer raisins $3 50 ₩ box; Valencia raisins 16@17c. ₩ lb.

DRIED FRUIT—The supply is rather in excess of the demand, and prices weaker. Sales were made in a retail way at 7@7½c@8 ₩ lb. The receipts were 475 head.

HAY—The supply has fallen off in some degree. Baled hay—sales, by the ton, in sacks at $17 50@18 00; in wagon at $12 50@16 ₩ ton.

FRUITS—We are in receipt of new crop Tennessee at 60c ₩ lb.

HOPS—Strictly fresh crops are held at 31@32c; pickled are offered at 28@30c ₩ pound.

FLOUR—The flour market has exhibited no new feature for a few days past, and is ruled dull, quiet and unchanged until after the holidays. We quote as follows: White wheat family brands $6 75@7 00 in barrels, and in sacks at $6 75@7 00; fancy brands, $6 75 in barrels, $5 50 in sacks; Dayton, Ohio, brands, $6 75@7 00; we are reported sales best pearl at $6 00@6 25; common $5 00@5 50 per bbl.

GROCERIES—Prices remain unchanged, with a fair trade reported for the season. We quote as follows:

Rice—Sales: No. 1 Carolina, 9½@9¾c; No. 2, 9@9½c; Havana, boxes, 9½@12½c; Molasses sugar 9@10c.

Coffee—Rio, choice 21½c; prime 21c; good 13c; Java 27@28c ₩ lb.

Sugars—Crushed, powdered and granulated 15½c; A coffee 14½c; B coffee 14½c; extra C 14c; C 13½c; C yellow 12½@13c; Porto Rico, 11¾c for fair, and 12c for choice.

Syrups—Playmper & Elder's 85c; white honey drips 80c; Lovering's 65c; silver drips 55c; golden 45c; amber and brown syrups 40, 50 and 60c ₩ gallon.

Molasses—The supply is fair; New Orleans, good, 70c; choice 80c.

RICE—Sales of North Carolina at 11½@12c.

LARD OIL—There is a good supply on hand, and sales No. 1 are made at 90c ₩ gallon. Sales in Cincinnati and Chicago winter strained $1 13 ₩ gallon.

GRAIN—Receipts of wheat, 1,042 sacks; corn, 514 sacks; barley, 1,012 sacks; wheat, 530 sacks corn, 1,870 sacks. The current rates were: Wheat—red winter $1 20@1 18; white, $1 30@1 35; corn, 60@ 62½@65 per bushel. Oats—The demand exceeds the supply; prices have an upward tendency; we are reported sales of car load lots at 45@46c; steamer 48@50c. Corn—In good demand; prices unchanged: sales of car load lots, yellow at 67@67½c; 65c; small sales at 62@65c; shelled is quoted 67@70c. Rye—The demand is improving; holders firm at 90c. Barley—dull; we quote nominally, spring 78@80c; fall 80@90c per bushel.

POTTERY—In consequence of the heavy supply, the market is rather dull, though the cold weather is in favor of the trade. We quote: Decorated chickens 19@12c; chicks 12@14c; in a regular way at 8½@8½c ₩ lb. Yellow ware—

Plates—Sales of Cleveland white at $2 25 and Eastern at 75 to $1 25 ₩ dozen.

MILL FEED—Market dull and prices weak. Sales middlings reported at $18 50@19 00 ₩ ton.

SAFOLIO—In fair demand, with regular sales at $16 50 ₩ half gross.

SALT—The markets is well supplied and sales are regularly made by the car load at $1 60@1 70 per bbl of usual assortment. Ground alum $2 50.

SEEDS—Sales of Cleveland white at $2 25 and Eastern at 75 to $1 25 ₩ bushel.

SODA—Sales in kegs 6c; boxes, assorted papers 8c; sal soda 3@3½c ₩ lb.

TALLOW—Good supply; sales of city rendered at 8½@8½c ₩ lb.

TURNIPS—The supply has fallen off, though not fully up with the demand; sales at 45@50c ₩ bush.

WOODENWARE—Following are wholesale prices per dozen: Tubs—Painted, No. 1, $8 50; No. 2, $7 50; No. 3, $6 50. Washboards $3 00.

WHISKY—The market is quiet and firm; Highwines 92c; common rectified 98c; proof rectified 95c; pure rye $1 05@1 10; Monongahela rye $1 05@1 10; Monongahela whisky $4 00@5 00 ₩ gallon, as to age.

RICE MEAL—The market continues a good supply and demand at $1 50@1 60 ₩ cwt.

CHEESE—We have no changes to note in prices.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PIG IRON AND BLOOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
SATURDAY, December 24, 1870.

The market since our last has presented nothing very new or important. The demand for raw irons has been light. This, however, is no more than is to be expected when the season is taken into consideration; besides, most of the mills are going to suspend operations in order to take stock and make preparations for the new year's work.

The receipts of forge descriptions have been light, being barely sufficient for the current wants of consumers. The same remarks will apply with equal force to other descriptions. The suspension of navigation will cut off all the recei pts, and trade will necessarily be restricted until after the advent of 1871.

The following are the sales of pig iron and blooms for the past two weeks:

	Week ending Dec. 17, 1870.	Week ending Dec. 24, 1870.
Bituminous	1,220	820
Anthracite	1,240	655
Charcoal	1,000	10
Allegheny coke	100	100
Blooms	300	
Total	3,890	1,585

The following are the receipts of metal for the two weeks in December, 1869, as dated:

	Week ending Dec. 17, 1869.	Week ending Dec. 24, 1869.
Bituminous	2,045	810
Anthracite	860	380
Coke	140	100
Charcoal	65	339
Total	3,069	1,610

Bituminous Coal Smelted from L. S. Ore.

200 tons No. 3 ..... $30 00—5 mos.
200 tons No. 2 ..... 31 00—4 mos.
100 tons mottled ..... 29 00—4 mos.
50 tons white ..... 29 00—6 mos.
60 tons medium gray forge ..... 30 00—4 mos.
100 tons medium gray forge, at furnace ..... 28 50—5 mos.
150 tons medium gray ..... 30 00—6 mos.

Anthracite.

200 tons Red Short ..... $30 00—6 mos.
200 tons No. 1 ..... 31 00—4 mos.
25 tons No. 3 Neutral forge ..... 30 00—4 mos.
40 tons white Neutral forge ..... 29 00—6 mos.
30 tons No. 1 Foundry ..... 36 00—4 mos.
20 tons No. 2 Foundry ..... 31 50—cash.
100 tons Gr. 3 Neutral forge ..... 30 00—4 mos.

Charcoal.

16 tons Lake Superior mill iron ..... $43 00—4 mos.

Allegheny Coke.

100 tons red basic ..... $31 00—6 mos.

Canal Receipts of Pig Iron.

The following are the receipts of pig iron via the Erie and Pittsburgh Canal for Nimick & Co:

	Tons.
Canal boat L. C. Magar	65
Canal boat Antoinette	60
Total	125

Receipts of Pig Metal, Blooms and Ore for the Past Twenty-four Hours.

PITTSBURGH, FORT WAYNE AND CHICAGO RAILROAD, P. R. DEPOT.

Cars.		Cars.
Nimick & Co. m 1	Dupesler Mills	1
Everson & Preston, m 2	Bryan & Co. m	2
Graff, B. & Co. m 1	Lindsay & McCutcheon, m	2
Union Mills, m 1		
Total 25		

PENNSYLVANIA CENTRAL RAILROAD.

Nimick & Co. m 1	Hussey, Wells & Co. 1
J W Porter, m 1	Hallman & H. m 1
Bryan & Caughey, m 2	J Wood, Sons & Co. 1

CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURGH RAILROAD.

Shoenberger, P. & Co. 7	Dilworth, P. & Co. 1
Eckstein, P. & Co. 1	Graff, B. & Co. 1
Brown & Co. m 1	Pittsburg Bolt Co. o 1
Zug & Co. m 1	Nimick & Co. m 1
Total 18	

PEN ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD.

McKnight & Co. m 2	Moorhead, m 1
Wm. Penn, m 1	
Total 3	

PITTSBURGH AND CONNELLSVILLE RAILROAD.

Lloyd & Black, m 1	Pittsburgh Bolt Co, m 3
Lynch, Staub & Co, m 1	
Total 5	

IRON AND NAILS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
SATURDAY, December 24, 1870.

IRON.

Common bar sizes	3½@3¾c.
Refined do	3¾@4c.
Heavy band	4 @4½c.
Hoopand light band	4½@5c.
Round and square	4½@5c.
Oval	5¾@6c.
Half oval and half round	5¾@6c.
Roller iron	5¾@6c.
Tank iron	6¾@7c.

All sheets over 28 in. wide, ¼c ₩ lb extra.

Flat rails punched and countersunk ..... 3½@4½c.
T. rail, 12, 16, 20, 28 and 40 lbs to the yard ..... 3½@4½c.
Nail rods ..... 5 @5½c.
Coal screen iron ..... 5 @5½c.

	American.	Charcl.	Juniata.
Sheet Iron, 10 to 17	6¾	8¾	9
" " 18 to 24	6¾	8¾	9
" " 25 to 26	7¾	9¾	10
" " 27	8¾	10¾	11

All sheets over 28 in. wide, ¼c ₩ lb extra.

10d to 6d Nails, Fencing and Brads	$4 00
8d and 9d " "	4 25
6d and 7d " "	4 50
4d and 5d " "	4 75
3d " "	5 00
2d " "	5 25
3d fine " "	6 75
4d fine " "	7 25
⅞ lining " "	8 25
Cinch " "	5 75
6d Spikes " "	4 25
Cut Boat Spikes " "	4 75

Barrel Nails—¾ in. $7 50; 1 in., $7 00; 1¼ in., $6 25; 1½ in., $6 00; 1¾ in., $5 50; 2 in., $5 25.

Tobacco Nails—50c above common.

Finishing Nails—$1 25 above common 4d to 40d.

Flushing Nails—$1; $8 00; 1, $2 50.

ABATEMENT.

Nails—12½c ₩ keg off when ordered in 100 keg lots.

TERMS.

Note or acceptance at sixty days, with current rates of exchange on New York, off, or discount of 3 ₩ cent. for cash, if remitted on receipt of invoice. Payment to be made in New York exchange, United States Treasury notes, or their equivalents. No discount on bills of less than $50.

MERCHANT BAR AND HEAVY HARDWARE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
SATURDAY, December 24, 1870.

The following are the card rates of Lewis, Oliver & Phillips:

Iron, standard list. Assorted orders ..... 2½c rates.
Discount off standard list.
Carriage and tire bolts, full square neck.
Forged bolts ..... 60 and 10 net
Plow bolts ..... 20 and 5
Machine and square head bolts ..... 40 and 5
Coach and lag screws ..... 40 and 10
Square and hexagon nuts and washers 4½c ₩ lb off

NET PRICES.

Harrow teeth, in lots of 1 ton or more, 1 in. diam., 4½c; ⅞ and ¾ in. diam., 4¾c; ⅝ in. diam., 4¾c ₩ lb.

Wrin bolts, in bulk, in lots of 1 keg or more, ⅝ in. diam., 7½c; 9-16 in. diam., 8½c; ½ in. diam., 9½c; ⅜ in. diam., 10½c ₩ lb extra, when less than 1 keg of each size is ordered.

Coach and lag screws, in bulk, in lots of one keg or more, ¼ and ⅝ in. diam., 6½c over above.

Screw Hook and Eye hinge, ¾ to 1 in. diam. 10½c; ⅝ in. diam. 11½c; ½ in. diam. 13½c ₩ lb net.

Screw and Strap Hinges, in lots of 100 pairs or more, 14 to 18 in. long, 7½c; 8, 10 and 12 in. long, 9c ₩ lb net.

Strap and T hinges ..... 10 and 7½ ₩ cent off.

Screw hitching rings ..... $7 50 ₩ 100 net.

Back nest hinges ..... 6½c ₩ lb.

Cast iron washers ..... 3½c ₩ lb.

Bridge and rail bolts—

1 to 2½ in. diam. over 8 feet long ..... 9c ₩ 4½c
1 to 2½ in. diam. 4 to 8 feet long 9c
1 to 2½ in. diam. from 1½ to 4 feet long 9c
⅝, ¾ and ⅞ in. diam. over 4 feet long 6c
⅝, ¾ and ⅞ in. diam., from 1½ to 4 feet long 6½c

WAGON HARDWARE.

Wagon box strap bolts, 14 inch, 80c net ₩ set of 8 bolts.

5c ₩ set for each additional inch over 14 inch. All over 24 inch, 10c ₩ set.

Wagon box strap bolts, 12 in. long by ¾ at screw end ..... 75c ₩ set of 8 bolts
Wagon box strap bolts, 10 in. long by ¾ at screw ends ..... 60c ₩ set of 8 bolts
Wrought iron box rods, narrow track, 3 ft 15c
Wagon box rods, wide track, each 16c
Single tree irons, ₩ set of 4 pieces 40c
Wrought iron bolster plates, 2½ inch wide, ₩ set 45c
Wrought iron bolster plates, 3 inch wide, ₩ set 50c
Wrought iron bolster plates, 3½ inch wide, ₩ set 55c
Wrought iron bolsters, each 13½c
Wagon Hammer Straps, each 13½c
Strap bolts, rods, single tree irons, bolster plates, brake ratchets and hammer straps, in lots of 50 set, each, 10 ₩ cent. off.
Wagon box staples, 1½ to 2¾ inch ₩ 1,000 ..... 25 net.
Neck yoke eyes, each ..... 5 net.
Kingbolts, ¾, 1, 1¼ and 1½ inch in diameter, ₩ lb 4½
Wagon rivets, extra large and oval head, ¼ inch diameter, all lengths, ₩ lb 11¾
Tongue cap iron, same as band iron, 1½, 2, and 2½ inch wide, 3½c ₩ lb over same size of band iron, net.

Lake Superior Copper Product.

[From the Portage Lake, L. S., Mining Gazette.]

The following is a statement of the copper produced in the Portage Lake district from December 1869 to December 1870. The shipment from the Hecla Company are largely in excess of the previous year. The Quincy shows a slight excess over last year, the Franklin-Pewabic is falling off. The following are the figures in detail:

	Mineral.	Refined.
Hecla Mining Co	2,446,700	4,800,176
Calumet Mining Co	1,194,320	4,000,414
Quincy Mining Co	2,202,741	
Schoolcraft Mining Co	15,427	284,200
Pewabic Mining Co		446,500
Franklin Mining Co		912,460
Minesota Mining Co		504,200
John Tyrrell		52,000
South Pewabic Mining Co		875,272
E. Shelden, Trustee		172,000
Huron Copper Mining Co		433,500
Daniel Huron		53,400
Hancock Mining Co		156,600
Grand Portage Copper Co		2,247
Daniel Northey & Co		3,000
*Philip Trecker	2,076	19,564
*Joseph Jenkins		5,611
Union Steamboat Co		9,000
*Edward Champion		10,911
*J. H. Pearce		8,917
*Wm. Hitchings		1,444
*Williams & Goldstein		2,999
*Davey & Mitchell		3,991
Huron Mine, from Tributers		5,345
South Pewabic, from Tributers		2,651
Totals	6,615,275	14,913,502

Total shipments ..... 21,528,777 lbs, or 10,764½ tons.

In the Keweenaw district, the Phœnix has increased its yield materially over last year, and the prospects for a still greater increase the coming year are said to be good. The figures of the Cliff show the yield of that mine for seven months only, the mine having suspended operations early in July. Since the cessation of operation underground, the company have obtained 56½ tons of mineral from their old barrow pits.

The product of the Cliff for the season is 465 tons, and of the Phœnix, 270 tons.

The only returns yet in from the Ontonagon district are from the National, the yield of which for 1870 was 160½ tons, it producing in November 30 tons.

The *Gazette* estimates the total product of Lake Superior for 1870 at not far from 12,000 tons.

"Tributers."

About Failures.

[From the New York Bulletin.]

The rather large number of failures recently reported are calculated to cause some little uneasiness in business circles, but not alarm, as yet; and the creakers who are disposed to magnify the probabilities of commercial distress will find no support considered by a large portion of our merchants, as somewhat hasty. The months of June and December are always more or less prolific of suspensions and failures, and the number thus far reported does not greatly exceed the average. The failures thus far appear to have occurred under the influence of depreciated values on liberal stocks, which have been foolishly carried for long periods in some instances, two years, hopeful of a reaction in prices. The majority of the business concerns, however, appear to have comprehended the inevitable shrinkage of values, and gradually worked off their stocks as opportunity offered, and thereby reduced the average loss; while speculation has, as a rule, been very light, and instead of holding goods in expectation of any certain value, those who have bought, either through necessity or choice, now own stocks on which they can realize at some price. That losses will have to be accepted there is no doubt, and in some cases very heavy ones; but evidences are yet wanting that our merchants are as financially weak as they are painted, and it would be discouraging, indeed, if the universally cautious policy of the past year is to have no better result than a weekly list of heavy failures, and possibly a panic.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 110¾@110¾.

NEW YORK, December 23—P. M.

GOLD.

Quiet and dull, opening at 110¾@110¾, and closing at the same. Loans were made at from 5 to 7 per cent. Clearances $21,161,000.

MONEY.

The money market has been very stringent at from 7 per cent. currency to ½ per cent per day. The latest transactions were chiefly at 7 per cent. gold, though even after banking hours there was some demand at 1-16 per cent. over the gold rate. The demand for currency from the interior is very great, and banks are shipping about $200,000 daily. Some certified checks, ranging in amount from $20,000 to $50,000, failed to make their appearance in the clearing house to-day.

STERLING.

Sterling Exchange 109.

GOVERNMENTS.

Governments steady, with fair transactions.

Coupons, 1881	113	113¼
6's, 1867	107½	107¾
5-20s, 1862	107	107¼
5-20s, 1864	106½	106¾
5-20s, 1865, new	106¾	106¾

STATE SECURITIES.

State securities dull and weak.

Missouris	93	Virginia, old
Tennessees, old	69½	North Carolina, old
Tennessees, new	68½	North Carolinas, new
Virginias, new	63	

STOCKS.

Stocks opened weak, but on first call improved a little, and remained steady the rest of the day. The closing prices in one instances being the highest made.

W. U. Telegraph	69	Northwestern
Quicksilver	29	Rock Island
Pacific Mail	29¾	Erie
Preferred	38¾	Reading
Adams Express	64	Pittsburg
Wells, Fargo & Co.	92	Fort Wayne
American Express	48	Michigan Central
U. S. Express	49	Illinois Central
Canton Co.	45	Cleveland & Pittsburg
New York Central	90¾	Cleveland & Toledo
New York Cent. Scrip	87½	Chicago & Rock Island
Hudson River	129	Pittsburg & Fort Wayne
Preferred	85	Chicago & Northwestern
Harlem	129	Preferred
Preferred	135	Milwaukee & St. Paul
Michigan Cent.	116	Preferred
Michigan Cent. Ex-div.	115½	Lake Shore
Cleveland & Pittsburg	93½	Illinois Central

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, December 23, 1870.

EXCHANGE—Unchanged.

FLOUR—Extra spring dull and nominal.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring opened and closed ½@¾c higher, closing quiet at $1 00@1 05; this afternoon dull and unchanged.

CORN—No. 2 mixed firm; closing at 44c for new; this afternoon unchanged.

OATS—No. 2 dull and lower, closing at 36c¾.

RYE—No. 2 quiet at 78c.

BARLEY—No. 2 spring declined 1c, closing at 70c.

PROVISIONS—Quiet at 9c for iron.

WHISKY—Dull at 90c for high wines; mess pork $14 25@14 37½. Lard closed at 11½@11¾c.

BULK MEATS—Shoulders 7½c; short ribs 9½c; short clear 10c; the latter sold at 9¾c.

CATTLE—Quiet.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, December 23.—Cotton opened firm, but closed quiet and unchanged to ⅛c lower. Flour opened firm, but closed easier and sales 21,000 bbls at unchanged prices. Wheat opened firm, but closed heavy and ½@1c lower; sales 70,000 bush at $1 25@1 26 for No. 2 spring; $1 26@1 27 for No. 2 Chicago; $1 27@1 28 for No. 2 Milwaukee; $1 28@1 29 for No. 1 spring; $1 29@1 30 for No. 1 Milwaukee; $1 30@1 31 for amber Iowa; $1 31@1 32 for amber Michigan; $1 32@1 33 for white Michigan. Rye dull at 90c. Barley dull. Corn opened firm, but closed quiet. Sales 60,000 bush at 62½@63c for shipping. Oats dull. Coffee firm; Rio cargoes 19½@20c. Sugar firm; Porto Rico 10¾@11c; Muscovado 10¼@10½c; New Orleans 10¾@11c. Molasses quiet. Rice firm at 8½@9c. Tallow firm at 9¼@9½c. Pork firm; mess $19 25@19 50; prime mess $17 50@18 00. Beef firm. Cut meats dull. Bacon firm and in fair demand; shoulders 12½@12¾c; clear rib sides 15½@15¾c; clear 15¾@16c. Lard firm; steam 12¼@12½c; kettle 12¾@13c. Whisky firm at 92c@93c.

New York Cattle Market.

NEW YORK, December 23.—Receipts to-day, 2,200; market for cattle and sheep dull and heavy; prices lower for cattle and sheep; the remaining Christmas cattle will be sold to-morrow. Cattle—Extra steers are not to be had; first quality, 9½@10c; second quality, 8½@9c; third quality, 7½@8c; poor to ordinary, 6@7½c; extra cows, 70@80c; common to fair, 40@60c. Sheep—Extra, 7½@8c; fair to good, 6½@7c; common, 5½@6c; lambs, 8@8½c; dressed sheep, 8@8½c; dressed lambs, 10@11c; dressed calves, 10@11c; dressed hogs, 8½@8¾c.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, December 23.—Dry goods.—The weather is extremely severe, and the streets are blocked with snow. Jobbers are going into the channels of consumption more freely, and are receiving and selling a fair trade for the season, and prices are depressed enough. Retailers are doing a fair business, and are buying to fill up their assortments ready for all future wants. Commission houses are receiving and selling a fair trade for the season, and prices are depressed enough. Retailers are doing a fair business, and are buying to fill up their assortments ready for all future wants. Commission houses are receiving and selling a fair trade for the season, and prices are depressed enough. Retailers are doing a fair business, and are buying to fill up their assortments ready for all future wants. Commission houses are receiving and selling a fair trade for the season

The Daily Commercial.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Fluid Extract—McClarran & McKennan.
Bowlen & Rook's Gold Pens—Samuel M. Orr.
Holiday Goods for Sale—Hosbier, McKay & Co.
First Methodist Church—Rev. I. W. McKeever.
New Jerusalem Church.
Thirteenth Congregational Church—Rev. R. Y. Garrett.
Opera House—Little Nell and the Marchioness.
Library Hall—Miss Clara Louise Kellogg's Concerts.
Orphans' Fair—Basement of St. Paul's Cathedral.
Fair and Festival—Eighth U. P. Church.
Masonic Hall—The Berger Family.
Pittsburgh Art Gallery—Opens Friday, 23d.
Trimble's Varieties Theatre.
Academy of Music—Europeans Novelties.
Reduction in Teas—P. C. Jenkins & Bro.
Singer Sewing Machine—Straw & Morton.
Holiday Presents—Chas. Abel & Co.
Notice—Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Co.
Wood Sawing Machines—146 Market street.
Wood Sawing Machines—146 Market street.
Washington and Jefferson College—Opens January 4.
Iron City Business and Institute—Opens January 3.
Trunks—Joseph Liebler.
Boarders Wanted—18 Wylie street.
Meeting—Contributors House of Refuge.
Matches—104 Wood street.
Stock Sales—A. McIlwaine.
Traveling Bags—Joseph Liebler.
Rooms for Rent—Mrs. J. Herron Foster.
Toy Trunks—104 Wood street.
Business Stand for Rent—C. H. Love.
Trunk Factory—Joseph Liebler.
St. James Hotel—James K. Lanahan.
Tenants Wanted—Mrs. J. Herron Foster.
Skating—Chain Skates for Sale.
Steamboiler for Sale—1,311 Carson street, Birmingham.
Election Notice—Mansfield Coal and Lime Company.
Aerated Crackers—Marvin's.
Shoeing for Sale—146 Market street.
Teas, Sugars, Molasses—Dilworth, Harper & Co.
Florence Sewing Machine—Hockett & McCabe.
Valuable Holiday Books—Lindsey's Book Store.
Beautiful Books—David Scott Store.
Pattern and Model-Maker—S. L. Vera.
Mineraline—James Bowron & Sons.
Residence for Sale—A. W. Lukens.
Watches and Jewelry—Scharzke & Will.
Bronze Medal Sets, &c.—Straw & Co.
Cream Ale—Pier, Dunnals & Co.
Aerated Crackers—Marvin's.
Grover & Baker Sewing Machines—127 Wood street.
Pittsburgh Nickel Plating Works.
Dog Store for Sale—R. E. Sellers & Co.
Brown's Bronchial Troches.
Home Stomach Bitters—E. J. Roberts.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON, PA.

The Brown Murder Case—Emily Brown Already in the Penitentiary—Jeremiah Knight Confesses to Complicity in the Crime—Fullam the Principal—Y. M. C. A. Lectures—Candidates for County Offices Already in the Field—The Chartiers Railroad.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, PA., December 23, 1870.

You have already published the result of the trial of Emily Brown for the murder of her husband, Samuel Brown, near West Middleton, this county. The prisoner is about fifty years of age, and has for a long time been regarded by her neighbors as an evil woman. For a considerable time previous to the murder she refused her husband access to her chamber. Her husband appears to have loved her, and provided for her every want. During the trial she showed no signs of fear, exhibiting great stolidity and indifference. When asked if she had anything to say why the sentence of the law should not be imposed upon her, she shook her head and croaked out, "I have nothing to say." Although she persists in asserting her innocence, every person is satisfied of her guilt.

The trial of Jeremiah Knight and John Fullam for the same offence, has been continued until the February term, at which time they may congratulate themselves if they are not in the penitentiary for the steps of their accomplice. It is sure that Knight has acknowledged to having aided and abetted in the murder, and has accepted a bribe to keep mum and actor in this dreadful drama. From his statement, if it can be regarded as such, Fullam first struck Brown with a heavy club, then shot him through the head, while he (Knight), for his part of the transaction, dragged the dead body of Brown and cast it into what is known as Lotten's dam. The probabilities are that this is correct, as Knight himself is regarded as too great a coward to strike the fatal blow. When told that Mrs. Brown would be likely to appear as a witness against him and Fullam, he exclaimed, "If that is so it is all up with John and Jerry."

The Young Men's Christian Association have been giving a series of lectures, and they have been well attended and encouraged by our people. H. B. Swoope, of your city, lectured on the Tuesday evening to a large and fashionable audience. His subject was the "Literary Character of the Bible." Mr. Swoope is an able and forcible speaker, and if he would confine himself exclusively to the lecture field, would in a short time stand in the forefront in rank.

Candidates for the various county offices to be filled at the next October election are rapidly springing into existence, and are urging their claims in a manner peculiar to all aspirants. They are ready to serve the "dear people" in every conceivable capacity; not for the paltry pittance that is attached to the respective offices, but for the fame it would secure and a nobler one. Just so!

The defeat of Lyndall in the First Senatorial District is a damper on the "Democratic expectations." We were confident that the victory would be ours, hence our disappointment. It was needless to explain the cause. It is enough that we have been defeated.

The Chartiers Valley Railroad, which is now in full blast to Canonsburg, has disappointed some of our citizens, who recognize the existence and efficiency of the Hempfield. They argue the matter in the following style: For the present amount of fare charged by the Chartiers Company, you can almost ride cheap. The future Hempfield without change of cars. On the former road you are scarcely seated until you arrive at your destination. On the latter you receive a long ride, and a consequence receive the entire worth of your money. Rather forcible arguments, these. W. H. M.

CITY MATTERS.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORD.

Observations Made by the Storm Signal Service of the United States Army.

PITTSBURGH, December 22, 1870.	7:22 A. M.	4:23 P. M.	11:23 P. M.
Height of barometer	30.25	30.56	30.29
Change since last report	.19	.11	.3
Thermometer	11°	6°	4°
Change in last 24 hours	-1°	-9°	-13°
Direction of wind	W	W	N W
Velocity of wind—miles per hour			
Pressure of wind—pounds per square foot			
Force of wind reduced to Beaufort scale, approximately	A	C	C
Rainfall since last report—inches and hths	0.00	0.00	0.00
State of weather	Clear	Clear	Fair

NOTES.—In the telegraphic reports, only the variations of the barometer since the last report are given; decrease being marked here, and throughout the table by the minus sign.

Character of the winds to save space, is indicated by letters of the alphabet, as follows: A, just perceptible; B, gentle breeze; C, pleasant breeze; D, brisk; E, high wind; F, very high wind; G, strong gale; H, violent gale; I hurricane; J, most violent hurricane.

State of the weather, in the same way, is indicated by numerals as follows: 1, clear; 2, fair; 3, light rain; 4, heavy rain; 5, snow.

JAMES WEST, Observer Sergeant.

GLYCERMEL OF ROSES. Try it.

BOQUETS and flowers at 137 Liberty street.

$100,000 worth of paintings at the Art Gallery.

UNIVERSALLY demanded—Crane's Soap.

ATTENTION is called to a redistilling establishment for sale in Cincinnati, Ohio.

THE POSTOFFICE.—The Pittsburgh Postoffice will be open on Monday from 9 to 10:30 A. M. only.

ROGERS and cut flowers at Murdoch's, 112 Smithfield street.

OUR FIREMEN.—The members of the Fire Department are requested to wear their uniforms at all times, when not working about the engine. The caps must never be cast aside.

GLYCERMEL OF ROSES, the best and cheapest preparation for chapped hands and faces in the market.

ONLY ELEVEN.—Only eleven inebriates were before His Honor Brush yesterday morning. Drunkenness was their only offense, and they were let off easily.

INTERESTING.—The forthcoming reports of the City Controller for the past year will be far more interesting than any reports which have been prescribed to the public for some time.

BUY YOUR WIFE A PRESENT.—Go to James R. Reed & Co.'s Jewelry store, No. 68 Fifth avenue, and buy her a set of beautiful jewelry which they have for Christmas presents.

ASK your grocer for Crane's Soap.

BERNSTADT, Wittkamp, McEntee, Shattuck, Dolhaas.

APPROACHING COMPLETION.—The new and commodious freight delivering depot for the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad, on Water, between Grant and Ross streets, is rapidly approaching completion. It is of sufficient capacity to accommodate the large and ever increasing traffic of the road.

IN GOOD CONDITION.—Frank W. Smith, Esq., road-master of the Connellsville Railroad, reports the road in good condition from the Pittsburgh yard east. All of the cracks in the yard, as well as elsewhere, have been thoroughly overhauled; new switches, &c., with guard frogs, have been laid, and the whole system of tracks raised and surfaced, and everything placed in substantial order for the winter.

CALL INTO JAMES R. REED & CO.'s store, No. 68 Fifth avenue, and examine the large and beautiful stock of watches, diamonds, gold chains and chronometers, clocks, silver and other fine watches, which they have ready for the holidays, and just the thing for presents.

HOW IT PROGRESSES.—A gentleman of this city who has just returned from Somerset, informs us that on Wednesday night the laborers engaged in ballasting the track for the track of the Connellsville railroad, on the Cumberland extension, had reached a point about four miles west of Ohio Pile Falls. Mr. Hughart's process in the progress mentioned no doubt accounts for the manner in which the work is being raised.

FRESH SHAD.—Last Christmas Col. Reed, of the Mealey Oyster Depot, Fifth avenue, was the first person in the country to supply his customers with that most delicious fish, fresh shad. He now repeats the feat of enterprise, and is prepared to furnish everybody with a nice shad for Christmas dinner. The Colonel furnishes the largest, fattest, and best oysters known to the trade, besides wild game of all kinds. Give him a call.

PITTSBURGHER KILLED AT BELLAIRE.—On Thursday afternoon a man named Noah Curtis, employed at the Benwood end of the railroad bridge at Bellaire was fatally injured by the falling of the trestle on which he was at work. The running ice forced the trestle work from its position, and he fell to the ground breaking his spine. He died in about two hours afterwards. Every care and attention was given him. He belonged to this city and was unmarried.

TAKE nothing but Crane's Compound Soap.

BIERSTADT'S LAST PAINTING at the Art Gallery.

CROWDS ON FIFTH STREET, and daily flocking to the jewelry store of James R. Reed & Co., No. 68 to buy a golden gift for some dear one as a memento of a merry Christmas. Go and see them.

BOQUETS and flowers at 137 Liberty street.

HAZARD & CASWELL'S Cod Liver Oil is the best. THS

THE IRON BRIDGE AT SOHO.—The work of constructing the iron bridge on the Connellsville Railroad, over Brady street, is progressing favorably under the superintendence of the manager of the Keystone Bridge Company's works, and in a very short time the patrons of the road will find this one of the most secure and reliable points on the road. The iron work rests on solid piers of masonry, and has two spans, and in addition to being substantial, is very pretty.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

Four Dwelling Houses in Ruins—Loss $16,000—Insurance $11,000.

A destructive fire occurred last night, shortly after nine o'clock, at the forks of the road in Lawrenceville, resulting in the destruction of four dwelling houses. The fire was first discovered issuing from the garret of a three-story frame house, located on Penn avenue, near the corner of Butler, owned by Jacob Vogel and occupied by Charles Hilger, who keeps a tavern in the first story, and resides in the second and third. The front is built of brick, and the remainder of frame. The flames spread rapidly, and soon communicated with another three-story frame adjoining, owned and occupied by Mr. Louis Bowe as a tavern.

The firemen were on the ground soon after the breaking out of the fire, in answer to an alarm from box No. 71, but despite their efforts the flames spread rapidly, and threatened the whole square. A second alarm was sounded, and the engines of the Second district called out, but it was thought that the alarm had not been sounded when a third alarm was given which was responded to by the firemen of the Third district. In the meantime the flames gained considerable headway, and had reached a double two-story frame house in Butler street, owned by Mr. Duckham. Mr. Duckham occupied one of the houses, and the other was occupied by Martin Liebler, and occupied as a hat and cap store. The four buildings then fronting destroyed, and but little furniture and stock were saved. Mr. Robert Young's dwelling was on fire a number of times, but it was finally saved with little damage.

The total loss will reach $15,000. Mr. Vogel's loss will reach $5,000, and Mr. Louis Bowe's the same amount. Mr. Bowe is insured for $2,500 in the Enterprise, and is also insured in the German, but we did not learn the amount. Mr. Duckham's loss on the buildings is about $8,000, and Liebler about $2,000. His stock was insured for $3,500 in the Enterprise. Mr. Duckham is also insured, for $4,000 in the Lycoming. Mr. Hilger's loss in stock reaches $1,000, which is fully covered by insurance.

The origin of the fire was from a defective flue in the garret of the building occupied by Mr. Hilger. The flames spread so rapidly that the fire department was allowed for the removal of stock or furniture, and the destruction was complete. The firemen worked faithfully, and suffered greatly from the cold, yet they did not relax their efforts to quench the flames. When we left the scene, the flames were still raging but the firemen had them under their control, and there was no danger of a further spread of the flames.

VAPA'S VENTURE PATTERN WORKS.

The Largest of the Class in Pennsylvania—An Important Enterprise.

One that occasionally wanders through a machine shop or any manufactory nearly thinks of the mind that is required for the handling of the machinery which produces its great results with such care and precision. The mammoth trip-hammer and the boot making machine, the lathe and the drill, and scores of curious machines of wood and iron, brass and steel, that accomplish as much labor as hundreds or thousands of skilled artisans, all owe their perfect operation to the nicety with which their patterns have been designed and made. Any mistake here, all the subsequent work of the machine builder is made of no avail, as a screw cannot be built from a faulty plan, or a wrongly made. As everything begins with the pattern maker, he must be conversant with the principles underlying all mechanical movements, intimately knowledge of the latest improvements in mechanics, in a word, keep up with the times, or else in order that he may aid those seeking his advice, give erroneous impressions and calculations. He interposes his advice, supported by experience, at the right time, otherwise have proved a failure is made successful.

The instances are numerous where Mr. Vera (who devotes special attention to the Bessemer process) when called upon by an inventor, has supplied almost everything necessary to the successful operations of a machine constructed, so to speak, merely upon the suggestion of crude ideas.

Pittsburgh has many skilful men in this line. We have the reputation which attends originality. Our engines, our boats, our stoves, our general machinery, in a word, bell their own story. Although this has been accomplished thus far seems but a prelude to that which is to be accomplished in the future. From a handsome gift, would do well to call and examine the stock, and make the acquaintance of the gentlemanly proprietor.

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What Days to Observe These Anniversaries.

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Yours, &c.,
H. L. RISDALE, Treasurer.

All Saints Church, Thirty-first street and Penn avenue.

ART GALLERY open during the holidays.

Wines, Liquors, Segars, Pickles, Etc.

While purchasing holiday supplies, some choice imported wines, fine brandy, or good old whisky, will be indispensable to many, while others will be glad of the opportunity to recall "auld lang syne" by enjoying some fine English or Scotch ale. All these articles can be had at the liquor store of Mr. E. J. Roberts, No. 74 Wood street, who has a choice stock of imported wines, liquors, segars, pickles, olives, etc. He has a full line of Cross & Blackwell's English pickles, their well known and famous brands of wines. These pickles are very fine, and would make a most delicious relish for a Christmas dinner. As to the genuine English and Scotch ales, we need not say more than that they can be got at Roberts'. Those who wish to and any of the above articles to their holiday stocks, or to remember some friend with a handsome gift, would do well to call and examine the stock, and make the acquaintance of the gentlemanly proprietor.

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ROTHERMAL'S GREAT PICTURE at the Art Gallery.

ART RECEPTION—LAST EVENING.—Last night our Academy of Fine Arts was opened to the public with flattering prospects as to patronage, and the most flattering results as to the number of pictures, the variety of portraiture, and generally of execution. At some future day when space admits, a complete description in detail will be given—suffice to say, at present that the collection will well subserve the purpose of a drying and store room. The machinery, tools, workmen's benches, &c., are all removed upon the first floor. Among the tools we noticed three circular saws, three lathes one swinging from ten to fifteen feet, and a scroll saw. The latter is used to add the score of workmen who, ere long, will be engaged in the works. Capacity from forty to fifty hands.

The Venture Works we may add are the largest of their class in the State, and have boast the very best tools, and experienced workmen. The proprietor, who is well and favorably known in our community, has displayed much enterprise and liberality with our leading master mechanics—proprietors of our workshops—to guide him. What with his new and improved machinery, experienced hands and skilled workmen, we will be surprised if the Venture Works does not soon be one of the institutions of the city, not only throughout Western Pennsylvania, but throughout Eastern Ohio and that part of West Virginia bordering on the Ohio River. We wish Vapa's venta. In short, the venture is machine against hand would be the description of their business in our mind as to the result. Mr. Vera is perhaps as well known to the inventors of Western Pennsylvania as any Pittsburgh mechanic. His former establishment, at the foot of Fourteenth street, turned out more work of every character than any pattern shop in Pittsburgh, and unless we are greatly mistaken, his new works will prove a very profitable venture.

ART GOSSIP.

J. J. Gillespie & Co.'s Art Gallery.

It is an admitted fact that Pittsburgh does not advertise itself after the manner of the great eastern and western cities. We are eminently conservative. We question very much if there is another city in the country claiming the talent and genius exhibited by our artists which takes less pains to publish the fact. It was only last summer that Pittsburgh could point for the first time to an Art Gallery. The ship has not been without its fruits, however. We have now only an Art Association that promises to be a permanent institution, but in addition, the oldest picture dealers in Pittsburgh, who is well and favorably known abroad as well as at home, in imitation of some of the great Eastern dealers, has, with the aid of his artist partner, Al Wall, completed one of the best designed galleries to be found East or West. The new gallery serves the double purpose of gallery and saleroom—a place where an artist who is alive to the importance of sustaining his hard earned reputation can *trust* his last picture, satisfied that so far as light, location and juxtaposition with competitive productions are concerned, his interests are canvassed. Here is a rapid step in the right direction. We will in time not only advertise our own artists, but foreign artists as well.

The new gallery already contains upwards of an hundred pictures, and when the finishing touches of Bierstadt's, now in the hands of the artist, Albert Jacobs, of New York, and Pittsburgh artists, James Hart, of New York, contributes a small landscape displaying much delicacy and refinement of execution which characterizes the artist's productions. In examining it we were struck with the confidence, decision and precision which mark the handling.

A small landscape by David Johnson, of New York, suggesting "rest, repose and tranquility," exhibits true artistic merit. The light is pleasing, a medium key, neither too high or too low, the color is good, the handling sufficiently broad, and the picture as a whole is fully covered by insurance.

A *genre* painting by an artist whose name escapes us—the figure of a woman sitting by a well, with water to a pair of vigorous hands extending through an open window, displays merit of a high order. Grace, freedom of execution, harmony in the composition of color and virtue are exhibited in the work.

The Barricade, by a French artist, is a picture worthy of an extended notice but we time is our disposal. It is pronounced in outline, substantial, expressing the most delicate graduation in tone, and lacking nothing in detail, yet singularly clear, broad and effective. A combination of qualities rare and remarkable in any picture. Every touch that of a true master hand.

All Wall hangs up a recent production, one of his small landscapes, a glimpse at that charming season when the sky takes on its gray tints, not a mere monochromatic of individual details, but a full picture such as can only be brought out by strong, fine solid painting.

Near by hangs one of Hetzel's landscapes—an Eastern creation we term it, inasmuch as we fail to comprehend the application of this and other words we claim to be familiar. The scene lies in the fact that the artist has barely stepped out into the mountains in search of a subject. We record it the praise, however; it is certainly one of his best efforts.

A picture by Carl Hubner, a German artist, exhibits the extraordinary genius for which this artist is celebrated. The figures in this picture are of mere effigies; they are solid productions, standing out in bold relief, conveying the faithful perspective and weight. The drawing is perfect, the coloring exquisite, the *pose* of the principal figures a study. The picture has been sold, and is certainly worthy of note, but viewed in any light the work is one that will withstand the test even of criticism.

W. C. Wall exhibits a landscape, a sketch from nature, displaying a vigorous touch, forcible, manifesting considerable knowledge of the subject, and an intelligent sense of color.

A cattle piece by Henry Farry is a rare bit of good painting. The color is rich without being sensuous, the drawing free, and the picture is pitched on a pleasant key. The treatment of the animals forms a relief from the spotty, dry, thin backgrounds so frequently met with.

Miss E. L. Beeson, a home artist of more than ordinary promise, displays remarkable originality in her treatment of a difficult subject—"The Assumption of Marguerite." To those familiar with the story, the interpretation of the artist reveals an intensity of meaning and a naturalness of conception almost terrible.

The merits of the picture do not consist in any degree upon accessories, but upon the treatment of the chief figure, Marguerite's attitude, but more particularly her expression, display a power far more than ordinary ability, while to our mind the conception is the highest effort of the artist recently on Twentieth street, between Penn and Railroad streets, Mr. Beeson.

VERA'S VENITER PATTERN WORKS

Are located on the corner of Twentieth street and Mulberry alley. The lot has a front of one hundred feet by one hundred and twenty. The building is two stories in height, thirty-six by one hundred and twenty feet. On the north side and rear portion of the building is the engine house, forty-one by twenty-six feet. The motive power is supplied by an engine with a twelve-inch cylinder, and thirty-four inch stroke. The fly-wheel is eight feet in diameter, and weighs thirty-five hundred pounds—say forty-horse power.

The motive power reflects credit upon the builders, Messrs. J. and J. R. Milholland, while the building itself, a substantial piece of work, bears testimony to the ability of the master builder, Mr. Holland.

Upon the right of the main entrance on Twentieth street is the office, eight by ten feet, with appropriate fixtures and furniture. Upon the left is the draughting room, of similar dimensions. The space between the two appartments is occupied by two large folding doors, in one of which a lesser door suffices for ordinary entrance. The folding doors serve the double purpose of a drying and store room. The machinery, tools, workmen's benches are located upon the first floor. Among the tools we noticed three circular saws, three lathes one swinging from ten to fifteen feet, and a scroll saw. The latter is used to add the score of workmen who, ere long, will be engaged in the works. Capacity from forty to fifty hands.

The Venture Works we may add are the largest of their class in the State, have boast the very best tools, and experienced workmen. The proprietor, who is well and favorably known in our community, has displayed much enterprise and liberality with our leading master mechanics—proprietors of our workshops—to guide him. What with his new and improved machinery, experienced hands and skilled workmen, we will be surprised if the Venture Works does not soon be one of the institutions of the city, not only throughout Western Pennsylvania, but throughout Eastern Ohio and that part of West Virginia bordering on the Ohio River. We wish Vapa's venta. In short, the venture is machine against hand would be the description of their business in our mind as to the result. Mr. Vera is perhaps as well known to the inventors of Western Pennsylvania as any Pittsburgh mechanic. His former establishment, at the foot of Fourteenth street, turned out more work of every character than any pattern shop in Pittsburgh, and unless we are greatly mistaken, his new works will prove a very profitable venture.

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A Great Holiday Establishment.

From the time immemorial jewelry establishments have led the van during the holidays activity of trade. Recently the most rigid department of jewelry and silverware, which formerly characterized these establishments, have yielded to the very many attractive additions in the way of fine vienna and other fancy goods. The most splendid stock of these wares displayed in this city, we had occasion to see, at Meyran & Seidle, No. 42 Fifth avenue.

PAINTINGS 17 feet high at the Art Gallery.

LOVERS of art will be gratified that an art gallery has been established by A. Gillespie & Co., at 86 Wood street. The gallery, which is in the rear of the main building, is open to the public during business hours, and at night by gas. There are now on exhibition embraces some of the best productions of our home and foreign artists. Messrs. Gillespie & Co. have also on hand constantly expensive studies to render their gallery attractive, and we have no doubt but that in a few days it will be a great place to passan hour. No charge for admission to the new gallery and saleroom.

SKATING TO-DAY.—We announce the fact that the ice will be of proper thickness at the Keystone Rink, on Robinson, near Federal street, Sixth ward, for skating to-day. This announcement will, we know, be hailed with pleasure by those who delight to participate in this healthy and invigorating exercise. No doubt ample preparations made for the accommodation of ladies and children, and the managers will spare neither expense nor effort to improve the facilities for every enjoyment to those who may visit the Rink.

CRANE'S Soap is demanded everywhere.

PRESENTATION.—The good people of Plymouth Congregational Church surprised their pastor, Rev. E. Y. Garrette, on Thursday evening, with a fine Christmas present. They placed a handsome bookcase, with glass doors, in his study. At the same time they presented his wife with an elegant chair. The presentation was made by Prof. Brown, of the High School. The Rev. Garrette made a tender and fitting response. It was an occasion of the purest delight.

SOLD everywhere—Crane's Washing Soap.

THE REPRESENTATIVE AMERICAN PRIMA DONNA'S Grand concert on Friday and Saturday evenings December 30 and 31st, at Mercantile Library Hall.—Miss Clara Louise Kellogg will be assisted by the great pianist Wehli and other celebrated artists. Popular prices of admission one dollar and one dollar and a half. Sale of seats, at Kleber & Bro.'s, commencing Tuesday morning.

THE great American prima donna, Miss Clara Louise Kellogg's grand concert, are advertised to take place on Friday and Saturday evenings, December 30 and 31st. Wehli will be assisted by the great pianist Wehli and other celebrated artists, are announced on the programme.

Go and see the *"Christian Mother"* at the Art Gallery.

A PITTSBURGHER ON THE PHILADELPHIA ROSTRUM.—James H. Hopkins, Esq., of this city, lectured last night in the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, on "Christian Knighthood." There was a very large audience present. The lecture was given under the auspices of the Knights Templar.

CRANE'S Patent Compound Washing Soap.

TRESSILIAN COURT;
OR,
THE BARONET'S SON.

By Mrs. Harriet Lewis, Author of "The Double Life," "The Bailiff's Scheme," "The Murdered Heiress," "The Lady of Kildare," "A Life at Stake," "The House of Secrets," Etc., Etc., Etc.

CHAPTER I.

A FATEFUL CATASTROPHE.

A wild storm was raging over the Mediterranean Sea, near the close of a dreary November day, and sky and waters were black with the gloom of the wooded and fierce tempest, before which a small sailing vessel was scudding under bare poles. Her hull and rigging proclaimed her Scottish. She was *The Gull*, Captain Varian master, on her way from England to Palermo.

She had on board two seamen, and two passengers.

These passengers were Englishmen, who had recently passed on *The Gull* to Palermo, whence they intended to embark by steamer to Marseilles, the following day.

While the Captain and his assistants were attending to their duties, and expressing apprehensions as to the safety of the vessel, the passengers stood apart, leaning against the low bulwarks, and surveying the wild scene around them.

These two were both young, apparently of the same age, about three and twenty, but evidently they were of the most opposite station in life.

One, the more striking of the two, was artistocratic, with a frank, smiling mouth, a pair of fearless blue eyes, shaded by a wide and jaunty hat, and a tawny hair blowing back from his face. Noble, gentle and kind beamed in his every look and word, and leaping